

The Official Magazine of World Championship Wrestling
and The New World Order

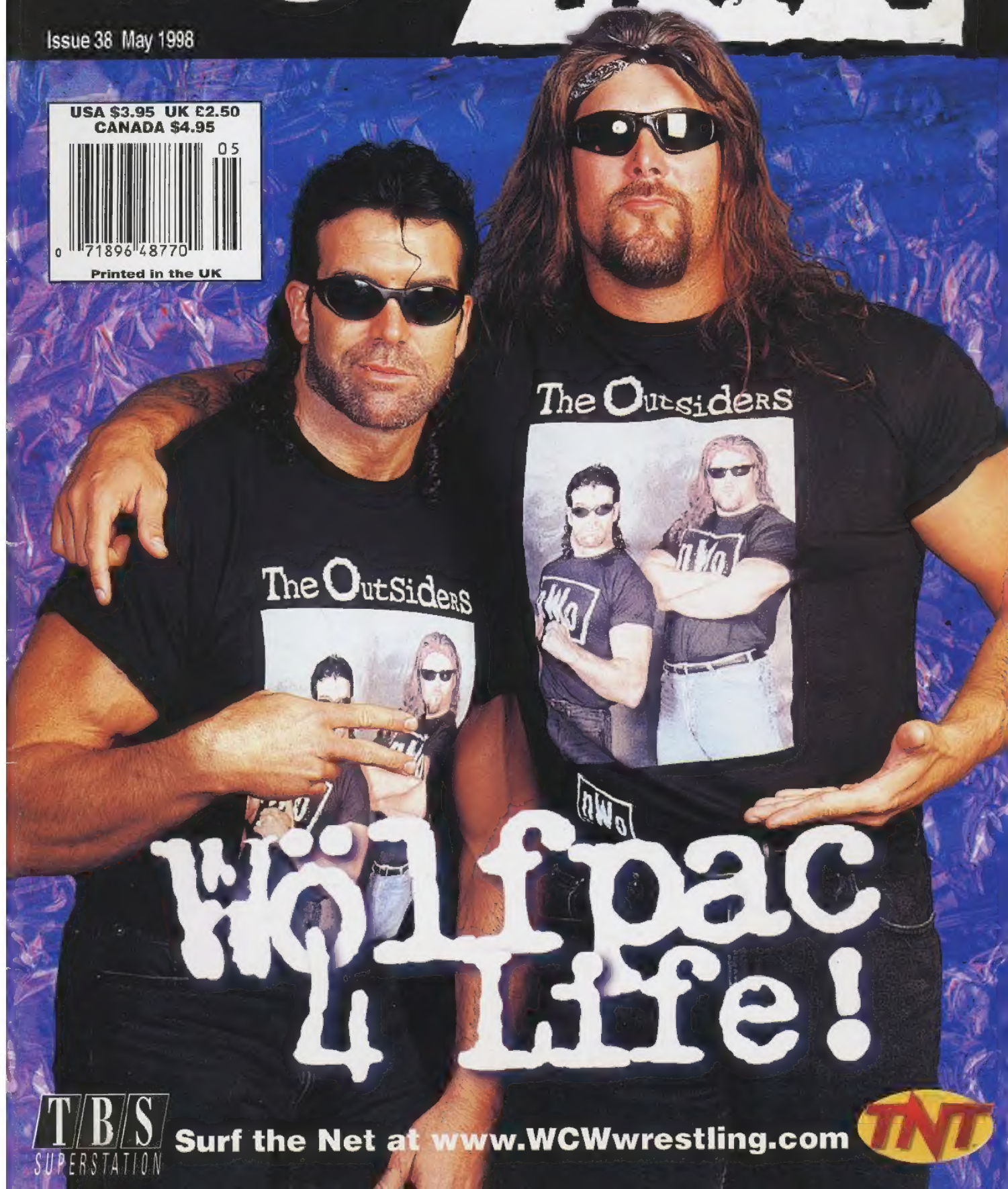
WCW/nWo

Issue 38 May 1998

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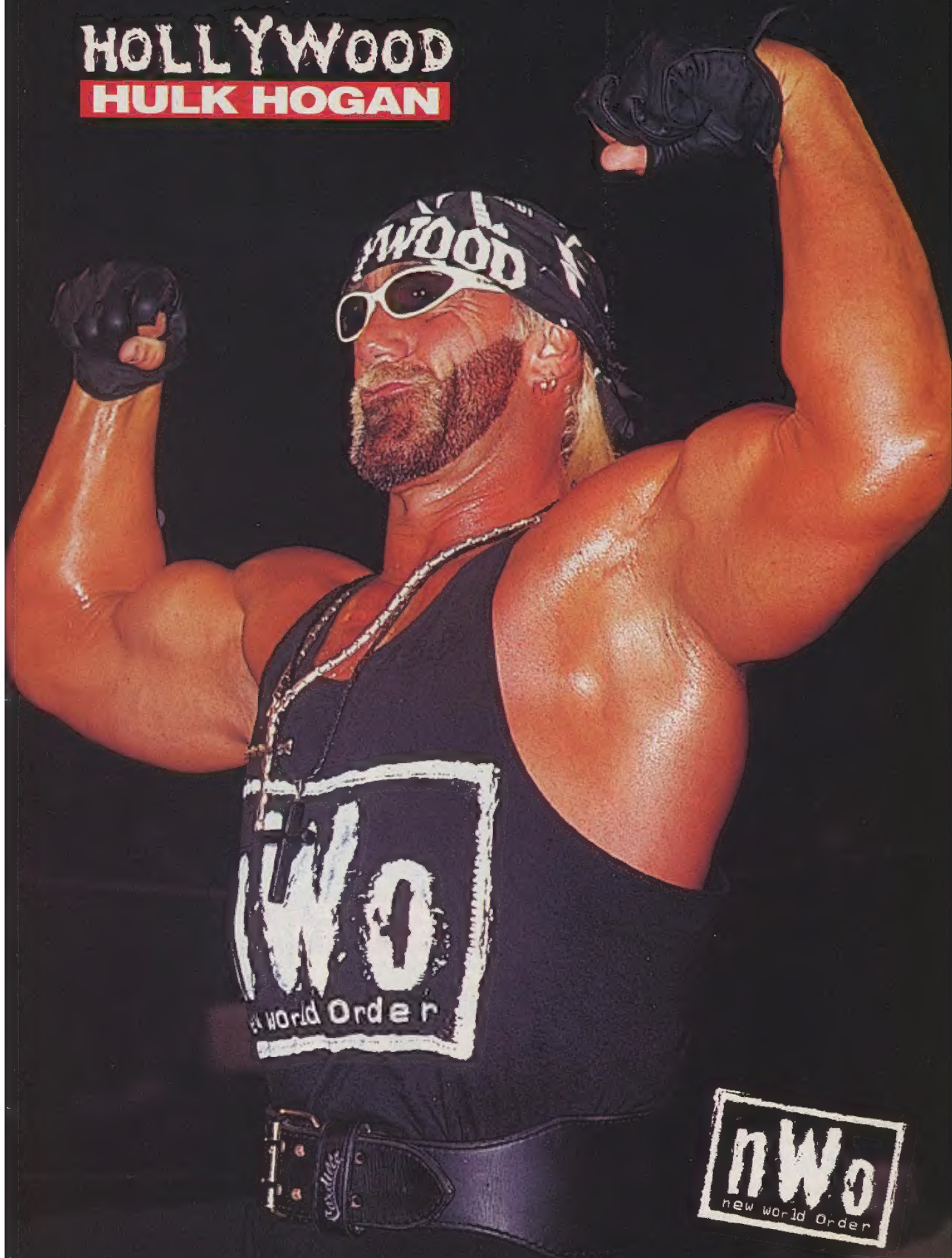
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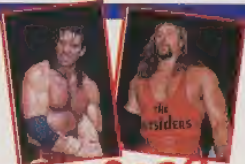
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- **May 17 - WCW/nWo SLAMBOREE NETCAST- 6:30pm ET**
LIVE from Worcester, Massachusetts. Mark Madden, Chad Damiani and Lee Marshall announcing.
- **May 18 - INTERNET INSIDERS - 6:30pm ET**
Mean Gene Okerlund and Mark Madden interview WCW (and nWo) Superstars LIVE!
- **May 18 - WORLDWIDE NITRO SIMULCAST - 8:00pm ET**
Mark Madden, Lee Marshall and Chad Damiani announcing with special WCW Superstar guests!

EDITOR'S

Magazines, newspapers, journals and journalists have to remain objective. Media sources that do not are just puppets of the corporate structure. At WCW Magazine we are not puppets. We have our own opinions. We make our own rules. We will publish what we believe our audience wants to read.

With all that in mind WCW Magazine is withdrawing from the war between WCW and the NWO. We are now neutral territory.

Welcome to the first issue of WCW/NWO Magazine — a new start, a new era.

This was not an easy decision to reach, but after many weeks of soul searching and consultation with the ultimate controllers of WCW over at Turner Sports, we have decided to give it a try.

This is the one place where WCW's and the NWO's wrestlers can express their views without fear of censorship.

This is the forum where WCW and NWO fans can freely praise or criticize anything they want on an equal basis.

And more importantly this is

where our writers are now free to give their own opinions and not those dictated to them by either organization as they strive to bring you the best coverage of what you see on Nitro, Thunder, Saturday Night and the PPVs.

From now on our keyword is objectivity.

Too many times we have been presented with situations we were uncomfortable with. There were times when such and such a wrestler was going to give a talk at a school and we couldn't cover it because he was in the NWO. Likewise, a WCW wrestler would commit a heinous action, but we couldn't report it, because he was a WCW wrestler and they are all pure and good. Yeah, right, whatever.

Just because a wrestler is in the NWO, doesn't instantly make him a bad guy. The NWO are protesting against the corporate structure in WCW, not against life itself. The same applies in WCW. Just because a wrestler has a WCW contract, that doesn't make him the second coming of Mother Teresa. Raven is a good example

of that case in point.

This is not a sell-out! And I certainly have not changed my views about anything that has gone on before and I am surely not pro-NWO. In fact I am surely not pro-WCW. I believed that this magazine was less than perfect, that flaws existed, the biggest of which was our inability to report objectively. Now that obstacle has been removed. So you be the judge. After a few months let me know what you prefer.

Whether you like it or not, the NWO is here to stay and, as such, we will grant those wrestlers the same respect we accord to those under contract to WCW, at least while they operate inside the acceptable rules of wrestling.

Thank you for all the support you gave WCW Magazine, now let it continue for WCW/NWO Magazine.

Congratulations to Lisa O'Neil from Coal Valley, who won our Reader Awards competition. Your prizes are on their way.

Regards
Colin Bowman
Publisher

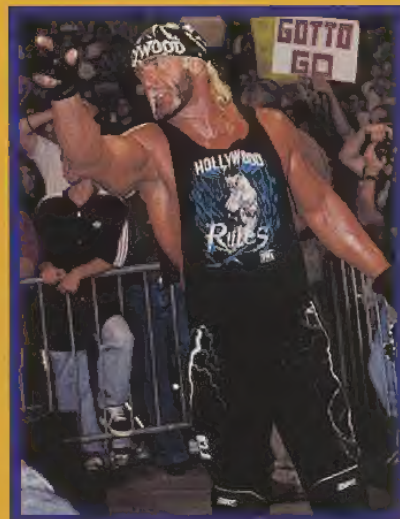
WCW EVENT NEWS

CHECK OUT OUR CALENDAR TO FIND OUT WHEN WCW WILL BE COMING TO YOUR AREA. CITIES, ARENAS AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, SO PLEASE CHECK BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR PLANS.

MAY	5/6	5/11	5/17	5/22	5/27
5/1	Des Moines, IA	Kansas City, MO	Worcester, MA	Toledo, OH	Nashville, TN
Greenville, SC	Veterans	Kemper Arena	Centrum	Seagate	Municipal Auditorium
Municipal Stadium	Memorial	6:30PM	6:30PM	Convention	6:30PM
7:30PM	Auditorium	NITRO	SLAMBOREE PPV	Center Arena	THUNDER
5/2	5/7	5/12	5/18	5/23	5/28
Charleston, SC	Omaha, NE	Springfield, MO	Providence, RI	Marion, OH	Knoxville, TN
N. Charleston	Aksarben Arena	Shrine Mosque	Civic Center	Fairgrounds	Civic Coliseum
Coliseum	6:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	Coliseum Arena	7:30PM
7:30PM	5/8	5/14	5/19	5/24	5/30
Savannah, GA	Salina, KS	Durham, NH	Portland, ME	Louisville, KY	Athens, Ohio
Civic Center	Bicentennial	Whittemore Center	Cumberland County	Broadbent Arena	Ohio University
7:30PM	Center	7:30PM	Civic Center	7:30PM	Convocation Center
5/4	5/9	5/15	5/20	5/25	5/31
Indianapolis, IN	Wichita, KS	Bangor, ME	Youngstown, OH	Evansville, IN	Dayton, OH
Market Square Arena	Kansas Coliseum	Auditorium	Beeghly Gym	Roberts Stadium	Hara Arena
7:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	6:30PM	7:30PM
NITRO	5/10	5/16	5/21	5/26	
5/5	Topeka, KS	Amherst, MA	Cleveland, OH	Memphis, TN	
Springfield, IL	Expoentre	Mullins Center	CSU Convocation	Mid-South Coliseum	
Prairie Capital Conv.	7:30PM	7:30PM	Center	7:30PM	
Cntr			7:30PM		
7:00PM			THUNDER		
TV TAPING					

TAG Talk

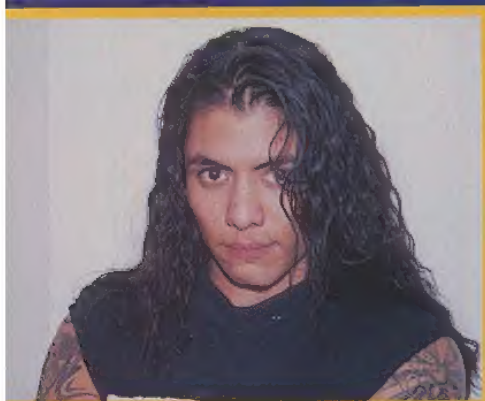
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PO Box 278, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6GE or send your
comments to us via E-Mail. Our address is
WCWPATTY@aol.com



Dear Tag Talk:

I am a huge NWO fan, mostly because of Hollywood Hogan and I don't see how you all can whine and put him down like you do. He is the best. He is the icon and he DID beat Sting at Starrcade. In my opinion, you don't give Hollywood Hogan enough credit. He has beaten all the major stars in the sport. You all should start showing Hollywood and the whole NWO some respect.

A. Murphy
Knoxville, TN



Dear Tag Talk:

I think the best move in the world was for Juventud Guerrera to take off that mask! Although I know it was a sad day for him, many of my female friends felt quite the opposite after seeing his face. Chris Jericho may call Juvi "Quasimodo" but to the women out there, he belongs way up there in the HOT category. Jericho, you did the women wrestling fans a favor by showing the real man behind the mask. The heat rose in Cincinnati the night Juventud took off his mask!

Rebecca Thornside
Cincinnati, OH

Dear Tag Talk:

I have been a huge fan of Bret Hart for over 15 years and am also a big fan of WCW as well. Now that the Hitman has entered the organization, I will always follow and be a loyal fan of his because he has the dedication, ability, athleticism, experience and know how to be the best in whatever he decides to do. I really do wish Bret the very best!

Scott Moretti
Bronx, NY

Dear Tag Talk:

Sting is FINALLY the real, true champion and I could not be happier. I hope that he shows the NWO and even the other hungry WCW wrestlers what a true champ is all about. Sting will be a fighting champion, unlike SOME champs WCW (NWO actually) has had in the past year IF you know who I mean!

Mary Casiak
Eros, LA

Dear Tag Talk:

I just read a copy of your January issue and had to write and tell you how much I enjoyed it. I love the Bobby Heenan column and your 1998 predictions were hilarious. I have a couple comments on the letters written in the January issue. I agree wholeheartedly that we Raven fans could use some articles on Raven and the flock. I would love to get some Raven and Flock merchandise and hope that WCW sells some of their T-shirts etc., soon. I also agree that Eric Bischoff is a big asset to WCW. Yeah, I know, I hear all those groans. I love Chris Jericho, no matter what he does, so keep that column going.

Norma Van Voskuilen
Buffalo, NY

Dear Tag Talk:

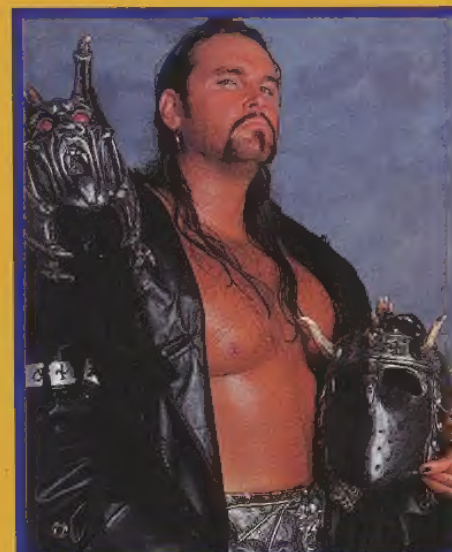
I love WCW and was very disappointed when Marcus Bagwell left WCW to join the NWO, leaving Scotty Riggs hanging, not knowing what to do next and now he has joined Raven's Flock, which is very disappointing. I was hoping someone at WCW Magazine had a picture of Marcus Bagwell and Scotty Riggs from the old days when they were "The American Males." I miss the "good old days" of The American Males and would love to see them again, if only in a picture on these pages.

Michelle Hampton
Citrus Height, CA

Dear Tag Talk:

What is going through Dusty Rhodes' mind? How low is he going to sink? He has already made a big mistake by turning NWO and messed up his career by doing so. Now, he may never get broadcasting spot again for WCW. Soon he will find out just how much the NWO really cares about their members. He is going to turn out to be just like Eric Bischoff. No one will like Dusty anymore just as they don't like Eric and that is a real shame.

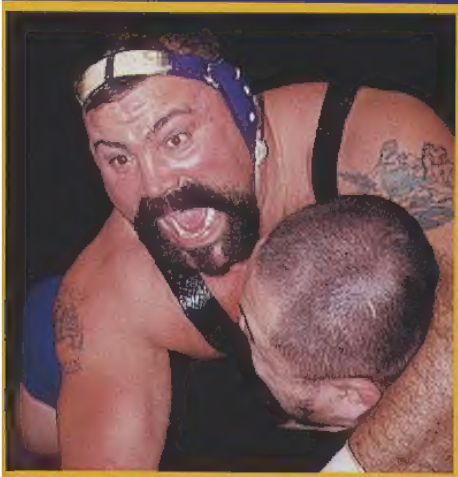
James Reagin
Atlanta, GA



Dear Tag Talk:

I am sorry that I missed out on "voting" or expressing my opinion on the sexiest wrestler feature you did awhile back but please allow me to cast a belated vote now ... WRATH!! He is a marvelous male specimen. He deserves more recognition and it would be great to see his splendor in the pages of your magazine. I would love to see a feature on him and a centerfold would be nice, not only because he is incredibly gorgeous but because he is genuinely a talented wrestler as well.

Lisa Rosner
Wooster, OH



Dear Tag Talk:
I am heartsick. I cannot believe that Scott Steiner would turn on his own brother and the entire WCW and go NWO!! I was awed and shocked when Scott actually attacked his own brother in front of millions of people then happily walked off with the New World Order. I give Rick Steiner a TON of credit for coming back and facing his rotten brother and I hope to see a Steiner match soon and I hope that Rick shows Scott what the meaning of the word REVENGE is.
James Redden
Alabaster, AL

Dear Tag Talk:

I enjoy the features on the Nitro Girls and hope to see more in the future. While I am very interested in the men of wrestling, the Nitro Girls are a very unique bunch and learning more about them has been very interesting. Please continue to spotlight these girls in your magazine. They add variety and spice to Nitro and to the magazine!

Kassandra Vancilliario
Elk City, OH

Dear Tag Talk

What is up with Chris Jericho? I can't stand to see the "CRY BABY" shoot his big mouth off. I mean, come on, no one wants to hear him talk. Maybe he should go to some other promotion and talk up a storm because no one will hear him anyway as they are all watching the hottest show on television, WCW Monday Nitro!

Kelly Burch
Elk City, OK

Dear Tag Talk:

I would like to extend my very deep concern for the Giant. When Kevin Nash dropped him on his neck, my heart skipped a beat. A man the size of the Giant could be paralyzed by a move like that. I am even more appalled that Nash is using his inability to execute his own finishing move to mock the Giant. I am writing this before Uncensored and I hope that the Giant gets his revenge on Kevin Nash. From what I saw, Nash has no regard for the safety of the Giant and that is just plain poor sportsmanship and neglectful! Get well soon, Giant. Your loyal fans love you.

Hailey Marcello
Richmond, IN

Hey Yo!

We are dedicated and loyal fans of NWO wrestlers. We love this magazine and would really enjoy seeing and reading more about the NWO. We would also like to see individual pinups of "Buff" and the "Big Sexy Giant Killer" Kevin Nash. Hope the magazine keeps getting better and better.

Stephanie, Amy and Marie Allen
Pineville, KY

Dear Tag Talk:

I just want to say that the luchadors bring class and real awesome wrestling to WCW. I hope to see some of the greats like Rey Mysterio, Jr., Juventud Guerrera, Psychosis, Super Calo, and my personal favorite, La Parka, wrestle non-luchadors like Lex Luger, Dean Malenko and even Bret Hart. It would be a very interesting blend of high flying moves and mat wrestling and I think it would show the luchadors are not just "warm up" type wrestlers but potential main eventers.

Laurie Tayson
via aol.com

Dear Tag Talk:

Why? Why would Juventud Guerrera agree to a title vs. mask match? The tradition and the meaning behind the Mexican mask is so rich and the way the mask vs. belt match was set up, made no sense at all. Juvi is a great wrestler and, with or without his mask, he will always be a great talent. I saw him crying when he unlaced his mask and I cried with him. Juvi, you are the best and your fans love you, with or without the mask. Go get em, Juvi!

Casey Mandoon
Springfield, OH

Dear Tag Talk:

I have been reading your magazine for some time now and I particularly liked the "Who's Hot/Who's Not" story. Agreeably, Sting is a walking inferno. I had the good fortune to meet him and "hot" just isn't as strong a word to describe him.

Here are my top ten lists.

TOP 10 REASONS WHY STING IS THE PERFECT MAN:

- 10.) You never have to wonder what to talk about.
- 9.) Gives new meaning to the "strong, silent type."
- 8.) He won't sing along with Barry Manilow on the radio.
- 7.) He doesn't yell out the answers when you're watching game shows.
- 6.) He won't talk to other women.
- 5.) You always know what he is going to wear.
- 4.) You can give each other make-up tips.
- 3.) He won't complain about your cooking, your driving, your mother, your car, etc.
- 2.) He'll beat up any guy that

bothers you, especially if the guy is bald and has a mustache.

1.) If you answer the phone and hear heavy breathing, you know it's him.

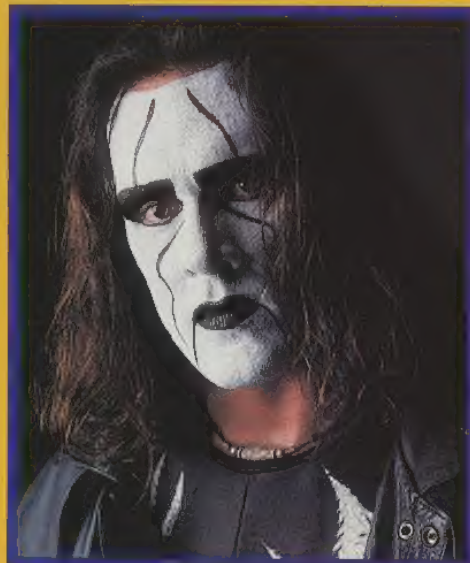
On the potential downside ...

TOP 10 REASONS WHY STING ISN'T THE PERFECT MAN:

- 10.) He keeps stealing your black eye liner.
- 9.) He takes a baseball bat to bed with him.
- 8.) He looks better in tight pants than you do.
- 7.) He won't stop to ask for directions (Does any man)?
- 6.) He likes to "drop in" unexpectedly.
- 5.) People keeping tossing quarters at him on street corners.
- 4.) You never know where he is, or what mood he is in.
- 3.) He only likes to go out when it's gloomy and rainy.
- 2.) Your parents keep calling him "That guy from Kiss."

1) If you have to watch "The Crow" with him one more time, you'll kill yourself.

Erin Buckley
Beaufort, SC

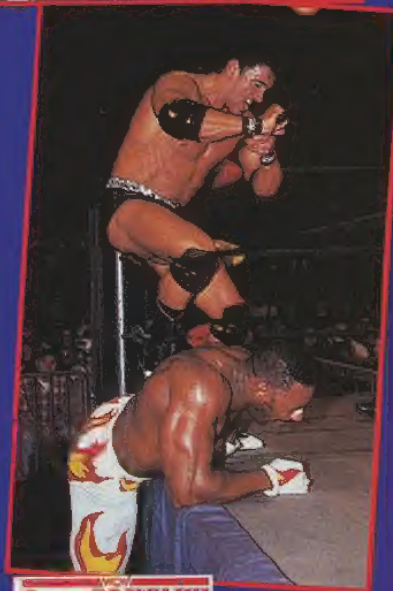
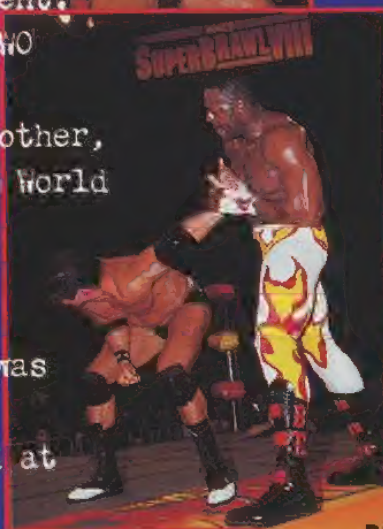
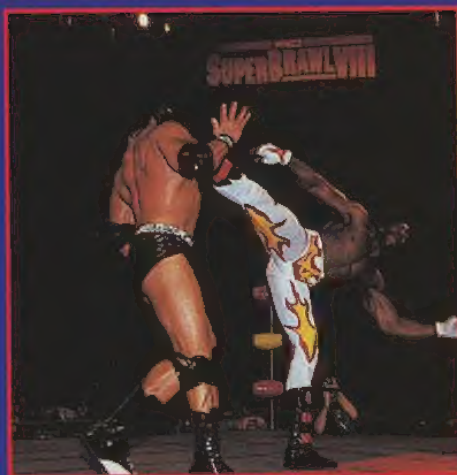
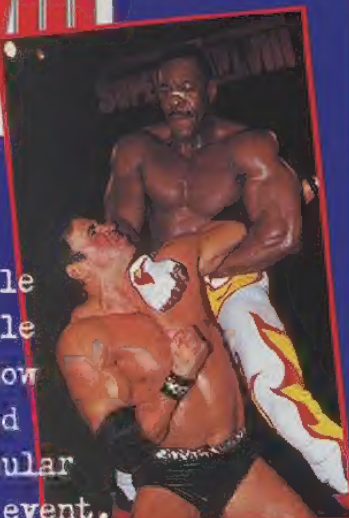


WCW SUPERBRAWL VIII

FEBRUARY 22, 1998

The line up itself spoke volumes for this year's SuperBrawl. With every title on the line (and the TV title on the line twice!), the show promised to be unprecedented based solely on the spectacular matches scheduled for this event. Add to that a new, surprise NWO recruit resulting in a bitter betrayal of one brother to another, and the crowning of a new WCW World Heavyweight Champion and you had an amazing event from start to finish.

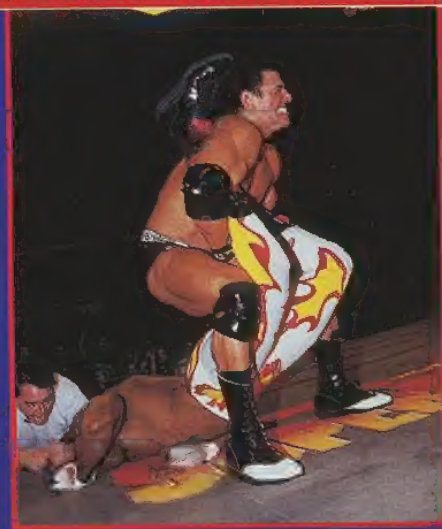
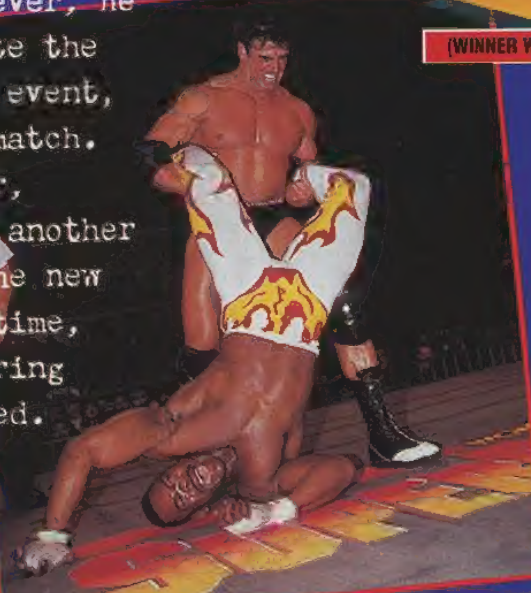
After referee Nick Patrick was suspended for his actions at Starrcade, he was re-instated at SuperBrawl VIII with no restrictions. However, he was NOT to officiate the all-important main event, the Hogan/Sting rematch. In the end, however, Patrick played yet another part in crowning the new Champion but this time, the crowd was cheering when the match ended.



SUPERBRAWL VIII

BOOKER T. VS RICK MARTEL

(WINNER WRESTLES SATURN LATER IN THE SHOW FOR THE BELT)

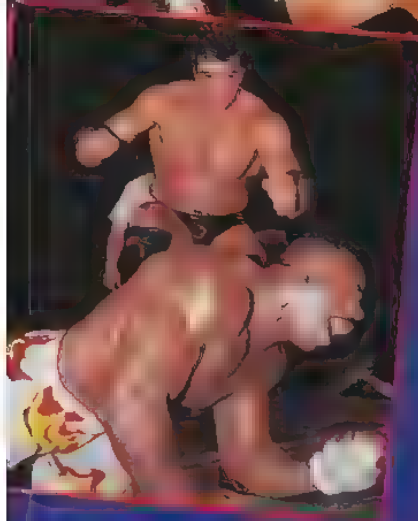


Booker T. lost the TV title to Martel only days earlier due to interference by Saturn. Now the two were in the ring again with Saturn waiting in the wings for his chance at the belt later in the show. The match began aggressively and stayed vicious from start to finish. Martel dished out punishment to the challenger with a back bodydrop and a slam into the guardrail, but Booker T. was quick to rally and come back strong even after a Martel powerslam and a powerful rear chinlock. The Quebec Crab almost did Booker T. in but he wisely made his way to the ropes to break the hold. After several two counts by both men, a hard running forearm by Booker T. and a scissors kick to Martel set the champ up for the Harlem Sidekick and the title changed hands. Booker T. became the two-time TV Champion. (10:28)

After the match, Saturn quickly jumped into the ring and slapped the Rings of Saturn on the unsuspecting new TV Champ and, despite the promise of a match later in the show, the TV title bout was on and Booker T. was in for the fight of his life!

WINNER: BOOKER T. BY PINFALL for the TV Title

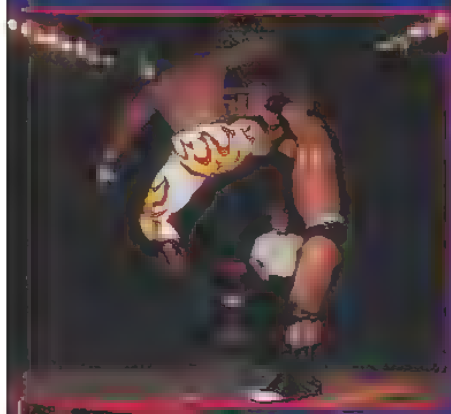
WRESTLING FROM SAN FRANCISCO, CA



SuperBrawl VII

SATURN VS BOOKER T.

TV CHAMPIONSHIP



Saturn, hungry for the title and ready to roll, went after an exhausted Booker T. like a pitbull, intent on taking the belt from the new champ. Booker T. managed a hard slam to Saturn onto the safety rail on the outside but could only crawl away, spent from his previous match. A Saturn slingshot crossbody over the ropes flattened both men on the outside. Back inside, Booker T. delivered a missile dropkick to Saturn which could have been the winning move for the champ, but he was unable to secure the three count.

Despite the obvious exhaustion of Booker T., Saturn's attempts to get the 1, 2, 3 were thwarted time and time again. At last the Harlem Sidekick, which won the belt for Booker T. only moments before in his match with Martel, once again proved to be a winning move as Booker secured yet another win, and a very deserving one at that! (14:20)

WINNER: BOOKER T. to retain the TV Title

WCW SUPERBRAWL VII

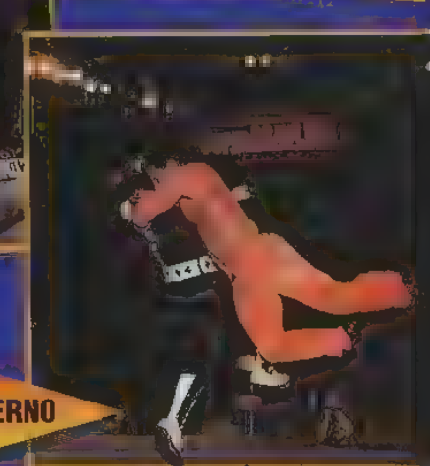
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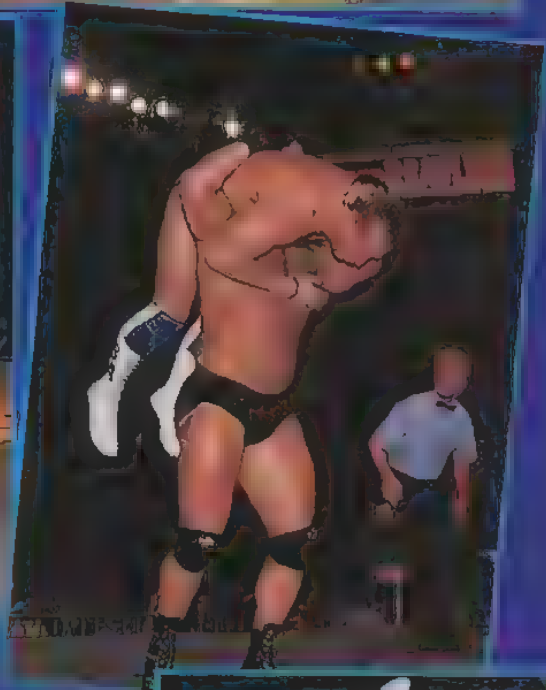
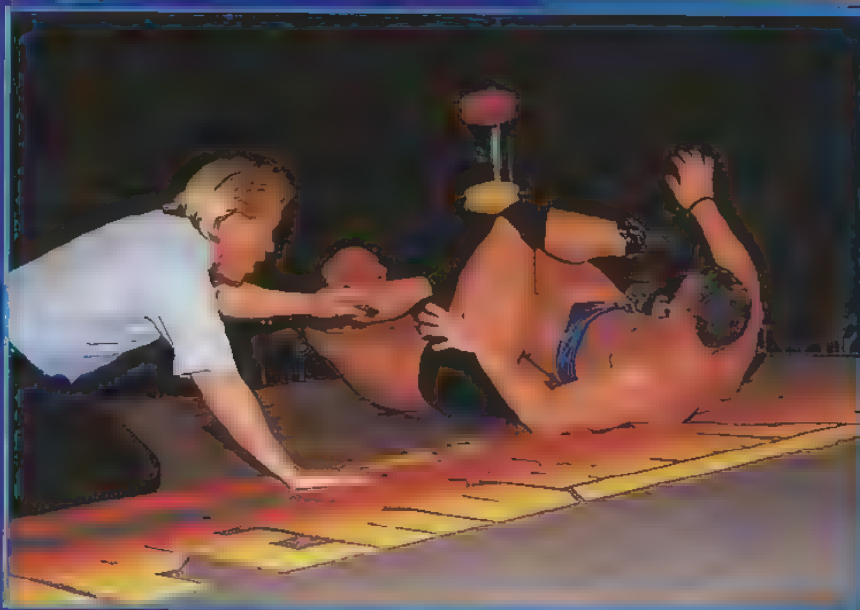
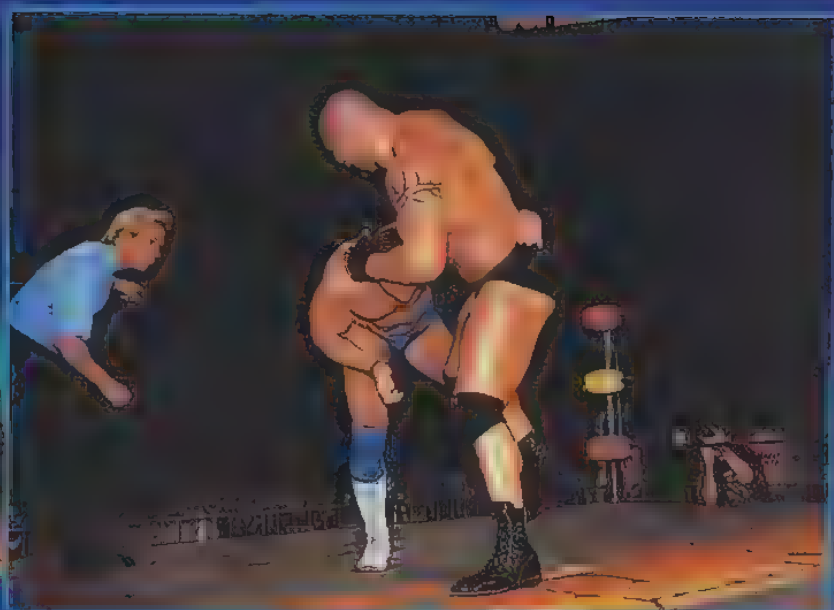
The "Chairman of WCW" went after Disco with the steel chair he is now famous for even before the bell rang. La Parka strutted his stuff then executed a corkscrew plancha off of the top rope to a disoriented Disco Inferno. The Brain was right on when talking about this match when he said "WCW - Where the Big Boys Dance - or Play" as each man showed both their unique wrestling and dancing styles early on in the match.

Gouging the eyes of Disco, La Parka got down and dirty and a hard kick to Disco's head flattened him. Rallying, Disco cornered La Parka and delivered a bevy of kicks to La Parka in the corner then executed an atomic drop on the luchador.

An accidental thumb to the eye to the referee by Disco left La Parka with a smile on his - er - mask as he grabbed his beloved chair, and slammed Disco's head then sat his stunned opponent in the chair. Going up top to finish off his victim, La Parka was unpleasantly surprised when Disco countered the move and threw La Parka face first into the chair, secured the Chartbuster on him and pinned the "Chairman" for the win. (11:50)

WINNER: DISCO INFERNO
BY PINFALL

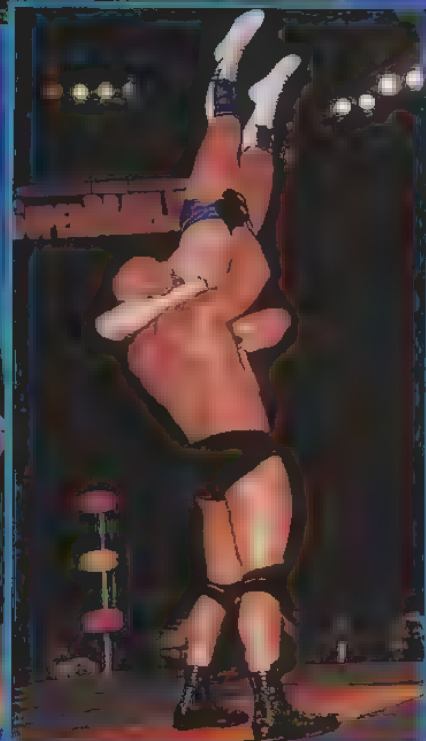




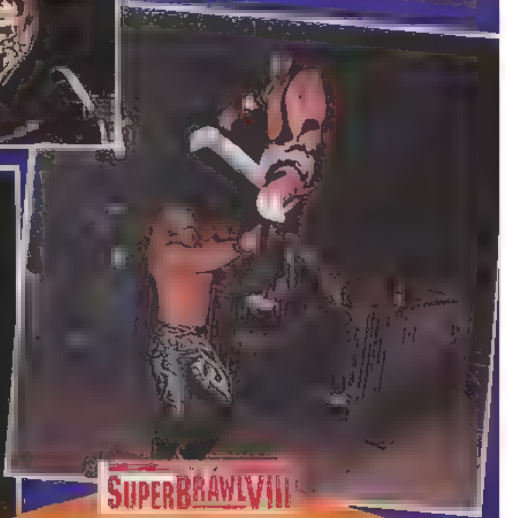
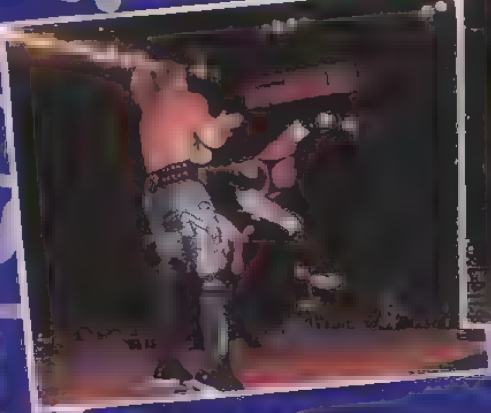
SUPERBRAWLVIII
BRAD VS BILL
ARMSTRONG VS GOLDBERG

Undefeated Goldberg went after Armstrong immediately and slapped on an ankle lock submission hold at the 35 second mark. However, Goldberg's hold was broken and an Armstrong Russian Legsweep served only to rile up the explosive wrestler. After an amazing backbreaker into a slam maneuver, Goldberg, a man who wastes no time, went for the Jackhammer on the helpless Armstrong and secured the win in 2:16, leaving Goldberg's record unblemished.

WINNER: BILL GOLDBERG BY PINFALL



WCW
SUPERBRAWL VIII
FEBRUARY 22, 1998



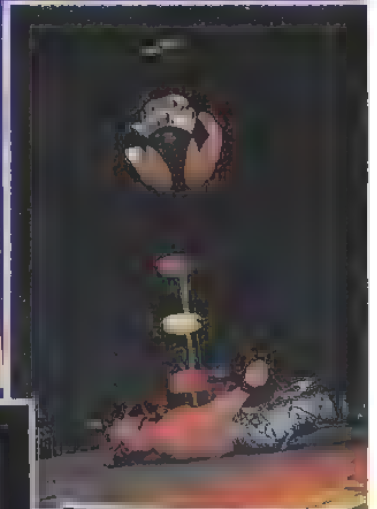
Juvi's mask and his identity were on the line as he fought to regain the Cruiserweight belt he held only a month previously, but Jericho was so intent on holding onto his title that he refused to even take the belt from around his waist to wrestle. Reality hit home as Juvi connected with a breathtaking kick to Jericho's gut, leaving a gasping Jericho to reluctantly hand over his belt to the ref and continue the match.

Jericho was flattened by Juvi on the outside and played possum hoping for a countout and an easy win but Guerrero wisely delivered an elbow drop at the count of nine to restart the match. "I can do it too, I can fly too!" Jericho yelled when the crowd was awed by one of Guerrero's amazing high-flying moves.

Counter after counter, Juventud refused to allow Jericho to get the upperhand, frustrating the champ. Guerrero managed a Juvi 450 at 10:20 and was declared the winner but Jericho had grabbed the ropes just as the three count was being made. Due to this, the match was back on and, before Guerrero even knew what was happening, Jericho attacked him and, at the 13:12 mark, managed to slap the LionTamer on Guerrero who reluctantly submitted. (13:26)

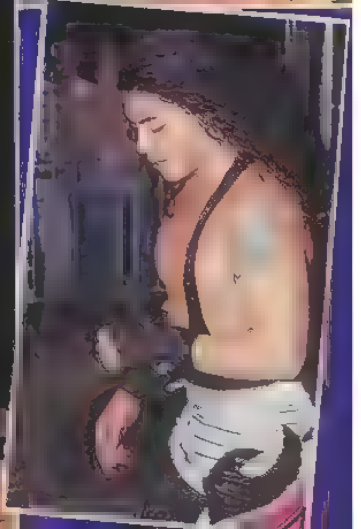
SUPERBRAWL VIII
JUVENTUD GUERRERA VS CHRIS JERICHO

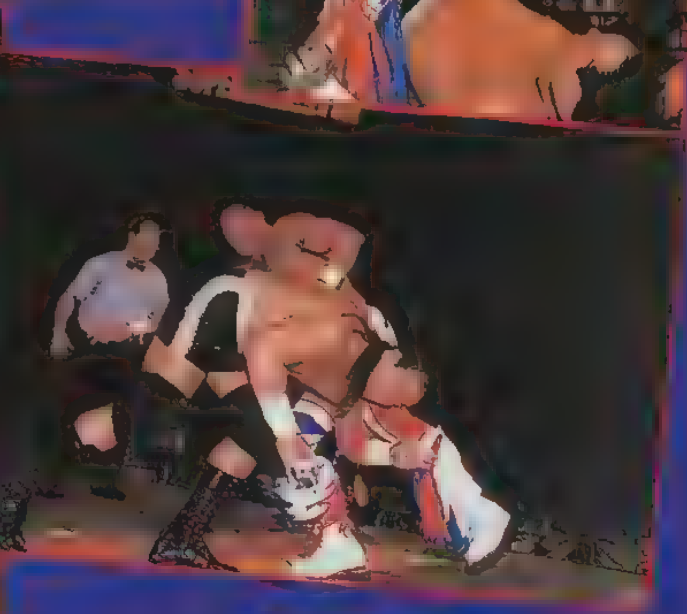
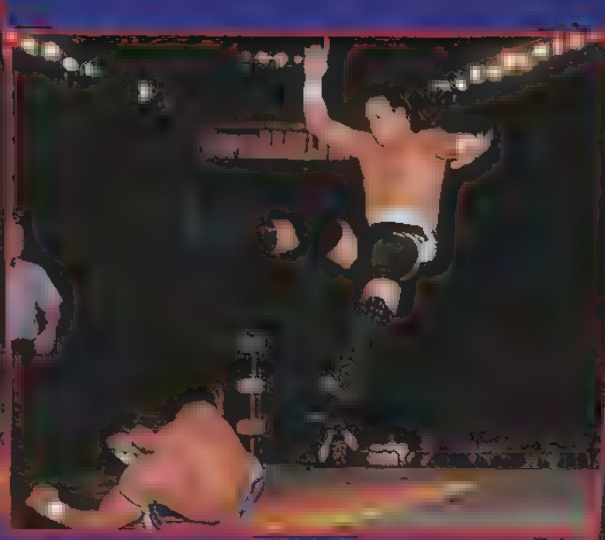
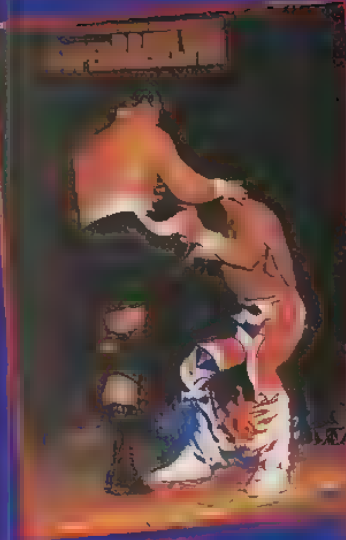
MASK vs. CRUISERWEIGHT TITLE MATCH



After the match, while being taunted by Jericho, Juventud Guerrera, true to his word, slowly unlaced his mask, remarking, "I love you," to his wrestler father, and, as the mask was unlaced, an impatient Jericho ripped it from the luchador and exposed the man behind the mask. Humiliated but proud, Juventud then faced the fans, showing the world that mask or no mask, he will be a force to be reckoned with.

WINNER: CHRIS JERICHO BY SUBMISSION to retain the Cruiserweight Belt



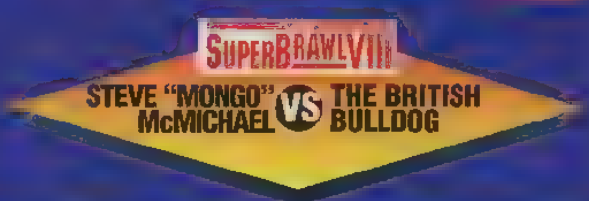


Since coming to WCW, The Bulldog has had it in for McMichael and vice versa, even escalating to a backstage fight a couple weeks before this match. The match was every bit a brawl starting out with a McMichael scoopslam and a variation of the sharpshooter by the Bulldog at the 1:56 mark. Screaming in pain, Mongo managed to reach the ropes and break the hold. He then threw the Bulldog outside and delivered several stiff forearm and threw him into the guardrail and the steel ring steps.

McMichael set the Bulldog up for a punch outside the ring but missed and slammed his hand into the steel ring post. The Bulldog, taking advantage of the obvious injury to McMichael's hand, went after the weak spot, inflicting even more damage to his toe. Meanwhile, Mongo tried to set the Bulldog up for a piledriver but his wrist gave out on him and he landed on the hurting end of a Bulldog armbar submission at the 5:00 mark. Screaming in pain, The ex-Bear refused to submit but the wise referee, sensing permanent injury if the match continued, called it a Bulldog win at the 5:16 mark.

McMichael was infuriated and screamed, "I didn't quit" to the referee and the crowd as he stormed off in frustration.

WINNER: THE BRITISH BULLDOG BY SUBMISSION.



WCW
SUPERBRAWLVIII



Mutual respect was the reason this match was signed. Both men are known for their amazing work ethic and talent and, after shaking hands, they showed us all that a wrestling match does not have to be between bitter enemies to be intense.

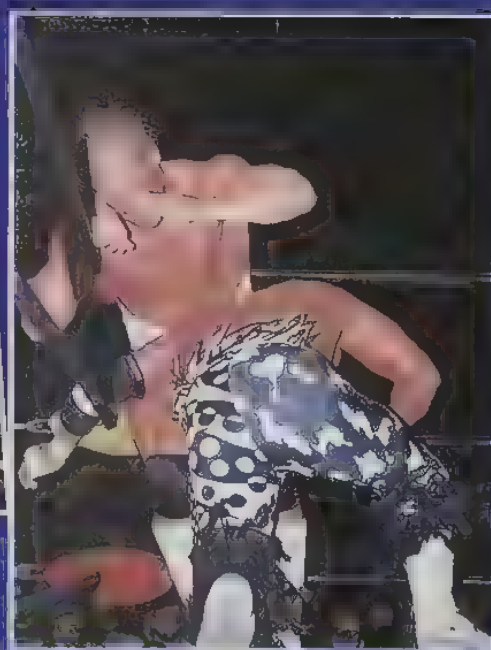
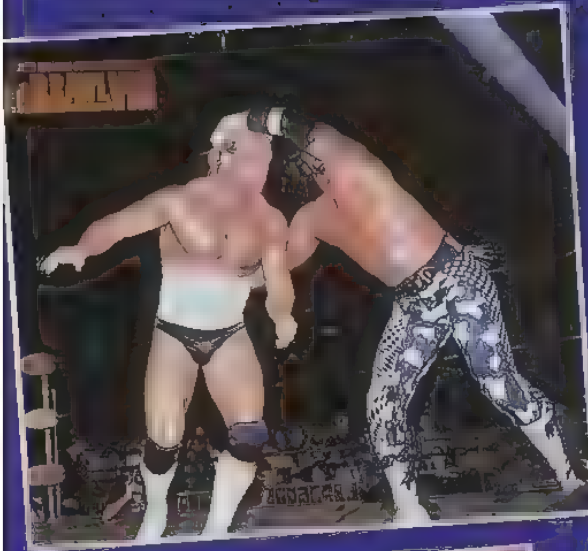
Benoit, as focused as ever, delivered a stiff kick to DDP's midsection then managed a front suplex into the ring ropes causing Page to turn it up yet another notch. Attempting a Diamond Cutter on Benoit, the champ was thwarted in his attempt and found himself the victim of several Benoit chops. The heat was turned up again when both men exchanged slaps to the face and "The Crippler" managed a variation of the Crippler Crossface to DDP. Benoit was relentless as DDP kicked and struggled his way free of the oft times match ending hold. DDP, however, did get out of the hold with a well placed jawbreaker at 9:00.

Benoit delivered a flurry of kicks and chops to Page who then ended up in a Benoit sleeper hold. Ever the thinking champ, DDP jumped Benoit to the outside, breaking the hold. In the ring, DDP went up top for a suplex that left both men flat on the mat. After the Diamond Cutter was thwarted once again by a crafty Benoit, the Crossface was once again attempted on DDP but the champ threw a leg onto the ropes to break the hold. An amazing array of German suplexes by Benoit landed him a 2% count but at last, DDP went for the Diamond Cutter and slammed his worthy opponent to the mat for the win. (15:46) Page left through the crowd, U.S. Heavyweight Title held high.
WINNER: DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE BY PINFALL



WCW
SUPERBRAWLVIII
CHRIS BENOIT VS DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE
SPECIAL RETURN MATCH
U.S. HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE CHAMPIONSHIP





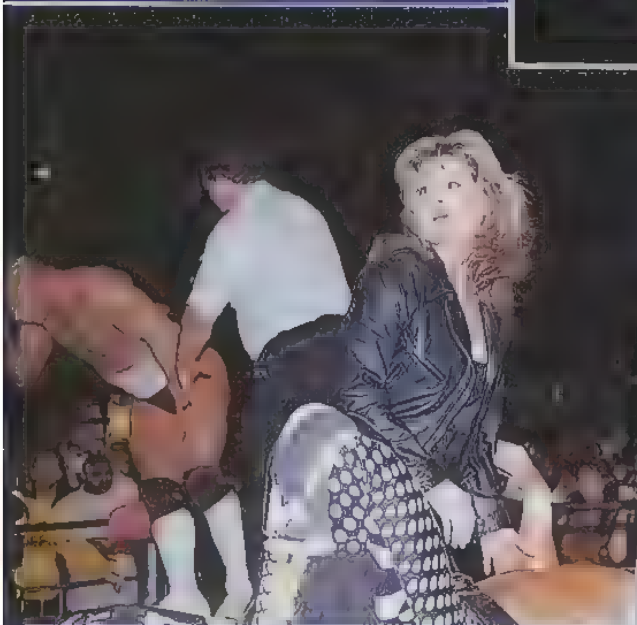
Luger, taped from the chest down from a recent NWO heating, walked into the match at a definite disadvantage. Savage, eyeing Luger's taped ribs, went straight for them and shoulder-rammed Luger into the corner, then the two went outside the ring, brawling into the crowd. Luger took an amazing chair shot to his injured ribs by Savage in the crowd and withstood a bevy of punches to the ribcage. Just when it looked like there was no more fight left in "The Total Package", he managed to powerslam and then rack Savage to the delight of the crowd.



Liz, sensing an imminent loss for Savage, then ran into the ring and raked Luger's eyes, causing him to drop Savage. Enter the NWO who ran to the aid of Savage, but in an amazing twist of events, BOTH Luger and Savage fought off the renegade

group sending them out of the ring. "Hollywood" Hulk Hogan then stepped in and stopped his disciples from helping Savage, allowing Luger to set up "The Macho Man" for the rack and win by submission, (7:50) After the match, a vindictive Hogan remarked, "We're glad you got beat," to Savage.

WINNER: LEX LUGER BY SUBMISSION



SUPERBRAWL VII
"MACHO MAN" RANDY SAVAGE VS LEX LUGER
 w/ Miss Elizabeth
ANYTHING GOES, NO DQ MATCH

WRESTLING FROM SAN FRANCISCO CA

WCVI SUPERBRAWLVIII



SUPERBRAWLVIII
THE OUTSIDERS VS THE STEINERS
w/Dusty Rhodes w/Ted DiBiase

TAG TEAM TITLE MATCH

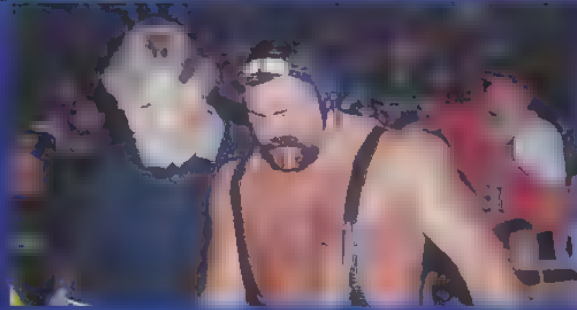


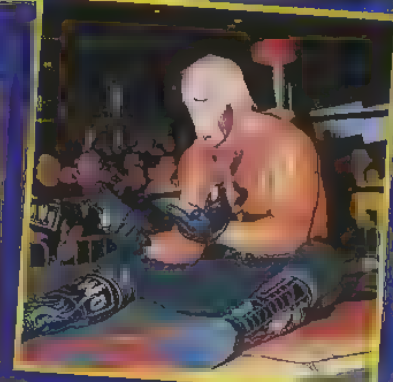
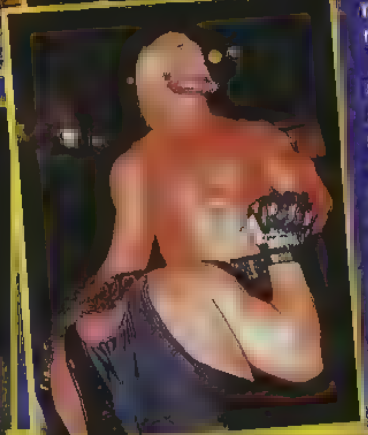
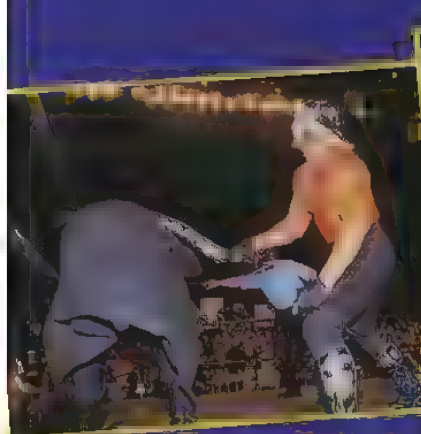
You want wrestling history? This match will go down in the record books as the day the Reader Award winning tag team came apart at the seams. The match started with Hall and Rick Steiner facing off, and a furious Rick Steiner punching and belly-to-belly suplexing the Outsider after his now-famous toothpick toss in the face.

After nearly 2 1/2 minutes of grappling, the unthinkable happened. Scott Steiner flashed a quick look at the Outsiders and, in one endless moment, turned against his partner and brother, Rick, punching him and butterfly powerbombing him, then turning his attentions toward Manager DiBiase, who was on the end of a Scott Steiner punch.

It was then that we witnessed Scott Steiner join the NWO and turn his back on his brother, his manager and his fans. Meanwhile, Hall was taking Rick Steiner apart, with plenty of help from Kevin Nash. Despite his valiant efforts, Rick was caught up in the Outsider's Edge and thrown to the mat by Hall who covered him for the 1, 2, 3. (4:16) Scott Steiner then picked up what were moments before the Steiner Brothers' tag team belts and handed them over to Hall and Nash, then took an errant swing at the ref. While the crowd was jeering this sickening turn of events, Hall, Nash, Rhodes and Scott Steiner stood in the ring embracing each other, looking right at the camera to the millions at home, remarked, "One more for the good guys," and raised the traitor Steiner's hand in victory.

WINNERS: THE OUTSIDERS BY PINFALL for the Tag Team Belts





The title was vacant. Two men stepped in the ring, prepared to do whatever it took to win that belt and show everyone who the real WCW Champion of the world was. Sting wasted no time running to the ring but was quickly whipped with Hogan's weightlifting belt as Hogan yelled, "You ain't nuthin'!" Outside, Hogan punched and choked Sting, then threw the man from the rafters into the safety rail. Just as it seemed that "Hollywood" would get the better of his opponent, Sting rallied. Unleashing a bevy of punches, chops and kicks to Hogan and, after atomic dropping the NWO leader, Sting took the same belt that he was whipped with and gave back a healthy dose of punishment to Hogan, who ran out of the ring. Sting caught the NWO godfather and pulled him towards the ring, then up and over the safety rail in to the screaming crowd.

After a missed Stinger Splash, Hogan managed a stiff chair shot to Sting at the 8:18 mark. A desperate Hogan even went so far as to bite Sting but WCW's hero remained undaunted and slapped on the Scorpion Deathlock. Somehow managing to get to the ropes, Hogan was able to get the hold broken and was handily splashed by Sting. The unlucky referee for the match was accidentally sandwiched between the two men and went out like a light when the two collided. Enter referee Nick Patrick. Hogan, smelling victory and seeing what he believed to be an ally in Patrick, went after Sting but was pulled off. Staring at Patrick in disbelief, Hogan screamed, "Hey! It's ME!" to Patrick who steadfastly stayed on the right side of the rulebook this time around.

After more intense in and out of the ring brawling, Sting splashed Hogan twice and went for the Deathdrop, but in the melee, referee Patrick was injured and unable to count the cover nor see the onslaught of the NWO as they made their way to the ring. As the NWO climbed into the ring, Sting took each one out, throwing them over the top. As Hogan was rousing from his Sting-induced sleep, Randy Savage, quick as a cat, slid into the ring, hit him with a spray paint can, left it lying in the ring, then dashed out. Sting, seeing Hogan still down, went for the count. Patrick, who had finally revived, made the count and the rest is history. Sting was the official World Heavyweight Champion (16:30). Seeing the spray can that Savage had left lying next to Hogan, Sting, a sly smile crossing his face, picked it up and painted the famous letters "WCW" on the helpless Hogan's chest as the crowd cheered. WCW had won again and a dejected and disoriented Hogan was left lying in the ring as the new champ proudly walked off with his belt.

SUPERBRAWL VII

"HOLLYWOOD" HULK HOGAN VS STING

WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE MATCH

Yo, "Hollywood," how's it going?
Hahahahaha hahahahaha.
Hey Hogan, who's The Champ?

Hahahahaha hahahahaha.

Feeling a bit naked without that 15-pound golden belt holding up your BVDs?

Hahahahaha hahahahaha.

Well, humanoids, as I write this Pulitzer prize winning column shortly after the Rematch of the Century at Super Brawl VIII in San Francisco, guess what? The Stinger is wearing the World Heavyweight Championship Belt — not "Hollywood" Hulk Hogan!

Hahahahaha hahahahaha.

Man, am I in a good mood. Even though I have to FAX this column to Colin Bowman, the poster-child for birth control, and perhaps even talk to Colin for a minute or two, nothing is gonna get me down.

Can you say that, Hulk?

Hahahahaha hahahahaha.

I probably shouldn't leak this scoop, but, uh, sure, here goes: I trained Sting for his SuperBrawl victory! The Friday and Saturday before SuperBrawl, Sting and I spent a combined 47 hours in the Presidential suite at the San Francisco Airport Marriott. (Shoot, I think I forgot to pay my half of the bill; I'll have to send Stinger a



BRAIN



REACTION

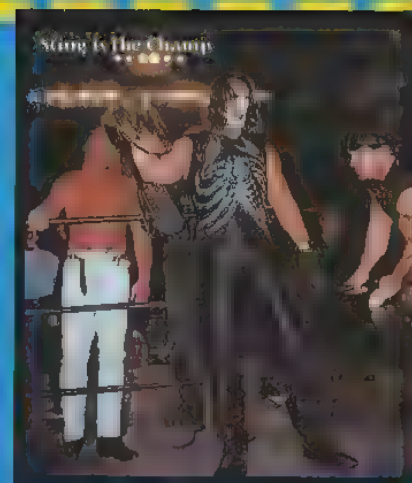
Bobby "The Brain" Heenan is the co-host of WCW Monday Nitro Live on TNT. He also serves as color commentator on WCW Clash and PPV broadcasts.
All the views expressed are his and his alone!

check.) We had three VCRs and as many TVs, and watched Hogan wrestle 30-to-35 opponents from over the years. We studied his every move, his every twitch — and it paid off. (Speaking of money, got my final check ready, Sting?)

Congrats, Sting! Good luck always, my friend!

Let's move on, humanoids.

"Macho Man" Randy Savage captured the prestigious Harvard Lampoon Real Man Of The Year award in mid-February. The ceremony featured a parade up and down the streets of Cambridge Mass., followed by a private dinner at the historic Lampoon Castle. Savage was named an Honorary Member of the Lampoon's Society and, thus, allowed into the upstairs portion of the Lampoon's Castle. Humanoids, that's quite an honor! Security to the second-floor of The Castle is stricter than in the international terminal at Chicago's O'Hare Airport. However my man Woody, through associates of ours who know people who know people who know people was able to sneak upstairs for a peak at Savage's ceremony and initiation. It featured a pasta dinner and banana crap, I mean, cream-something for desert, then ended with — get ready for this — Savage dancing on the dinner tables with the Harvard kiddies to, what else? "MACHO MAN"! As for the initiation, well, it made hell week at Omega Mu look like a walk in the park. Personally, I think it was too graphic, too gory, too



humiliating, too inhumane to share. But if you send me a check for \$29.95 I'll send you my detailed five-page report.

One more Savage note, I have to say his Slim-Jim "High School Savage" commercial is hilarious. I laugh every time I see it.

It's time for another award. This time for the bravest (or stupidest) man in wrestling. The winner is ... Al Eastman. Who I hear you ask? This looney, er camera operator, has started taking close-up shots (see picture on this page) of the pyro that shoots out of the ringposts at Nitro.

Ya know the old saying that "It's better to have dog-breath than no-breath," well, in Eric Bischoff's case, I'm not sure that's true. With all of the medical miracles nowadays, I wonder why we can't cure Eric's severe case of diarrhea-of-the-mouth. Where's Doc Dean when we need him?

I am really ticked at Chris Jericho, and you know it takes a lot to, one, set me off and, two, turn me against the paragon of virtue "Mr. Role Model," Chris Jericho. But now he's done it. CJ defeated Juventud Guerrera at SuperBrawl to retain the WCW Cruiserweight Championship belt and while that doesn't come as much of a surprise I can't believe what I saw when Juv took his mask off. Talk about ugly. Air Quazi is a compliment. Granted I have been barking for a Mexican Mask Match for months and did want to see Juv's kisser but now that I've seen it, I'm calling for another Mexican Mask Match. This time, if he wins or loses, he's gotta put a mask back on. Humanoids, as the nice, kind caring, considerate person that I am, I'm suggesting this second Mexican Mask Match for all of our sakes.

Did you know Villano V is a dentist back home in Iaco Town? Yep ... now we know how and

where Silver King got his name

I've got a little more about Juvi, although no explanation for Juvi Juice. Konnan claims Juvi disgraced all Latinos when he lost his mask, and I agree. Now, in fact, he isn't allowed to enter Taco Bell anymore; he can simply go through the drive-thru. Yep, it's a fact.

Has anyone heard The Deli Boy on WCW's RealAudio Broadcasts? Boy, this kid is a real ham. I've met him and, well, he's got a great face for broadcasting ... on Real Audio. I also can inform you that he's got four more hairs than Okerlund. Maybe five. But not six. Deli usually teams with "Pi" (you know who) Mark Madden and "Stagger" Lee Marshall for the broadcasts, while Ross Forman provides backstage interviews with the stars.

Personally, I wouldn't be too upset if this foursome came down with a non-stop case of food poisoning. Now you'd probably expect me to say some comment at this point about Mark Madden's ever expanding waist line, but I'm not gonna do it; that would be mean, cruel, gutless and tacky — and you know I'm not that kinda guy. But, I will say this, the 47-year-old whale will be moving out from his Mommy's house before his 60th-birthday. Congrats, "Big Boy."

Booker T's double-win at SuperBrawl (Rick Martel, then Saturn) earned him the Television Title for the second time, a ton of respect from yours truly and, in my opinion, a lock into the Wrestling Hall of Fame. Booker is now a



nine-time World Champion. (That's twice in singles competition and seven times with his brother Stevie Ray as Harlem Heat in the World Tag Team Division. OK, see if you can add two and seven, humanoids.) Is Stevie Ray a Hall of Famer too? I think the jury is still out on him. (Start stuffing the Ballot Box, Stevie.)

Why does Okerlund get to go with The Nitro Girls to all the great Nitro Parties, like the one at Duke University? I'm not asking this because I want to go; in fact, I'd rather not. Who'd want to hang out with a bunch of beer-guzzling party animals whose idea of fine dining is steaks ... from Steak & Shake? Okerlund, of course.

Can you imagine initiation into Raven's Flock, what that entails? It kinda scares me to even think about it. That's a perfect segway to Billy Kidman, who obviously doesn't earn enough money wrestling. (Well, ya gotta win once every six months to make a living in this sport.) He works part-time — days, I'm told, at the Mableton (Ga.) Kennel Club. Obviously BK is getting a wee bit too close to some dogs ... just watch how much he scratches himself. Hmmm.

Just a hunch:

* Look for an alliance between Diamond Dallas Page and Eddy Guerrero in the coming months. Yeah, I know, it sounds incredibly far-fetched now, but just remember, you heard it here first.

● A major WCW star soon will start wrestling with a mask on.

● Lex Luger will cut his hair.

● Syxx will come back, like Lex, with a brand-new look.

● Bret Hart, "British Bulldog" Davey Boy Smith and "The Anvil" Jim Neidhart will, come summertime, not be as buddy-buddy as you might think.

Imagine the ultimate person: part-Bill Goldberg, part-Bill Gates. He'd be one bad dude, brilliant with a billion bucks.

Tony Schiavone and Mike Tenay regularly play Strat-o-Matic Baseball. Gee, how fun! I've also seen them backstage at WCW events playing Monopoly. Life, Cue and, believe it or not, Chutes & Ladders. Boy are they party animals!

My dear, close, personal, longtime confidant Sonny Onoo informs me he's got several new Japanese stars headed into WCW in June. And two of the names are REALLY gonna surprise you.

In closing, I personally want to extend my condolences to the



family of Louie Spicolli, the 27-year-old who died this winter, much before his time. Despite the fact that Spicolli was aligning himself with The NWO, I was saddened to hear of his passing. Again, my condolences.

See you next month, humanoids, unfortunately, Bobby.



NITRO

PROFILE ON KIMBERLY

"I knew we were going to be successful but the team has exceeded even my expectations," said Kimberly, about the amazing popularity of the Nitro Girls dance team.

Kimberly is generally thought of as the "leader" of the team but don't let her hear you say that. "We work as a team. Each of the girls brought different talents and backgrounds to the table. The sum is greater than the parts. There is no leader, no 'boss' and that's what makes us the unit we are", she said.

The Nitro Girls, now an integral part of Monday Nitro, have no current plans to expand to the Thursday Thunder show. "A lot of fans have demonstrated an interest in having 'Thunder Girls', she said "but I don't see it in the works." We want to concentrate on making Nitros as exciting and fun for the fans as possible."

To that end, the Nitro Parties have been exceptionally popular events, both to watch on Nitro and for the Girls. "The Nitro parties have become a real highlight and something that we look forward to but each of the Nitros are exciting as well!" she said.

The regular Nitro parties, live and on site, are chosen by the WCW Executive Committee and Kim encourages all fans to send in their videos of their own Nitro parties. From those videos, lucky winners get a live party complete with The Girls, Gene Okerlund, food and a great time all around not to mention a live cut away on Nitro throughout the show.

So what is in the works for the Nitro Girls now? "We want to develop more merchandise and I would like to expand our internet

program and get the girls active online," said Kim. She, herself, is continuing her weekly letters to her fan club members and staying in touch with the online fans. "Soon, I hope all the girls will be online and as active as I am," she said. (The Nitro Girls website can be accessed through www.WCWwrestling.com)

Kimberly is staying busy with the Nitro Girls but stressed that she is still managing her husband, Diamond Dallas Page, behind the scenes. "I still do all the managerial work that I did before, I just don't stay at ringside," she explained. "When Page has a match, I am always standing behind the curtain watching the match," she said.

Fear of DDP's newest rivals, Raven's Flock, leaves Kim somewhat leery of being out in the arena unprotected. Raven's guys may see me as a way to get at Page and I do think about that just as I still think about Randy Savage," she said. But that doesn't hinder her performances in the slightest. "I just go out there and have fun and forget everything but what we're about: fun!"

Besides working with the Nitro Girls and managing DDP, Kim has her own column in this magazine to keep her busy. Time management seems to be the one thing that all the girls share.



"It gets hectic but we all love it. I think we succeeded because none of the women have let the fame go to their heads and have stayed grounded," Kim said.

Along with the addition of Whisper, Nitro's seventh Girl, Kim promises more individual routines and new stunts. Her goal is to showcase each girl's unique talents and to have the fans get to know them as individuals as well as a team. And, she wants to really get the Nitro Parties going on a very regular basis. "Keep sending in those Nitro Party videos," she said enthusiastically. "We're really excited about the parties and look forward to more great times like the ones we have had."

(Nitro Party videos can be sent to: NITRO PARTY, One CNN Center, PO Box 60, Atlanta, GA 30303)

Girls

STRAIGHT FROM



THE HART

I've been enjoying meeting the wrestlers, staff and fans of WCW but it's good to see my old friends too. As I travel from town to town I see a lot of "Hitman" signs in the crowds and it's great that my fans have followed me to WCW. I've also noticed that there are some WCW fans who haven't decided if they want to cheer for the "Hitman" because they're not sure if I have some kind of a hidden agenda.

Considering the NWO's devious infiltration I can understand why it's not as simple as black and white for WCW fans to take things at face value. I don't mind earning your trust. One thing you'll learn about the "Hitman" is that I mean what I say and I say what I mean.

It's become clear to me that my mission is to dismantle the NWO brick by brick. That includes the second biggest backstabbing sell out of all time, Dusty Rhodes. I don't think "jello man" is up to the challenge any more so I'd like to make an example out of his protégé... and that's Scott Hall.

Dusty practically raised Scott Hall, a decade ago, in Florida Championship Wrestling. By the time Hall got to WCW, Rhodes was doing commentary, which the three-time World Champion misinterpreted as being pushed aside despite his loyalty. Considering all the career advice and breaks Rhodes had given Hall over the years he went to the NWO co-founder to return the favor.

I want to get my hands on Scott Hall and use him as an example of what I'm going to do to the entire NWO.

In particular, I have a problem with Curt Hennig's continuing allegiance to the NWO. I guess Curt isn't so "perfect" any more or else he wouldn't need the NWO boys to back him up. Curt and I used to be friends and we both believed in preserving the dignity and integrity of professional wrestling.

Today Curt mocks those ideals even going so far as to drag this down to grade school level. What is it he said, "My dad is tougher than your dad," or something like that? The fact is that Stu Hart beat Larry Hennig and Bret Hart beat Curt Hennig. Whatever else he's saying he's just blowing smoke.

For Hennig to go NWO was almost as nonsensical a thought as the "Hitman" trading pink and black for white and black. That's why he was able to pull off one of the greatest swerves in wrestling history when he helped destroy the legendary Four Horsemen. The teary-eyed academy award winning performance that Curt gave when Arn Anderson passed the torch and his spot as The Enforcer only served to heighten the shock when Curt turned his back on tradition and showed that his true colors are black and white.

He'd had a secret alliance with the NWO all along and their plot was to destroy the Horsemen from within. It worked.

I watched all this with disgust and wished there was something I could do about it but it happened just before I got to WCW. Over the years I'd come to respect the staying power of the Horsemen, their solidarity and support rivaling that of the Harts. Avenging the destruction of the Horsemen was one of the things I looked forward to when I signed with WCW. But I never thought my biggest ally would be none other than Ric Flair.

Flair didn't waste any time proving to me that no matter what rivalries there are between The Nature Boy and the "Hitman", Ric Flair and Bret Hart have a lot more similarities than we do differences. It's funny about me and Flair. No matter what we said about each other in the past we never lost mutual respect. We both hate the arrogant "time honored tradition get out of the way" attitude of the NWO, the "Hitman" and Ric Flair are united in defending the unification of WCW and the memory of The Horsemen.

But that's not why Flair is watching my back. Ric Flair wants the "Hitman" to be WCW Champion. And the only reason he wants that is so that he can try to take the strap away from me. Flair and I each believe we're the best and to be the best you have to beat the best. Yeah, he'll watch my back just long enough to see gold around my waist and then Slick Ric will be the first to sneak up behind me. That's okay. I'd do exactly the same thing.

Another guy that I might end up joining forces with is Randy Savage. Yeah, he's NWO — or is he? The way he's challenged Hollywood Hogan's position as top dog makes me wonder if Randy's plan all along has been to destroy the NWO from within — just like Curt did to the Horsemen.

As far as Hogan goes, he's been running from the "Hitman" for five years. I don't care if I have to go through every single guy in the NWO to get to Hogan 'cause when I do there'll be nobody left for him to hide behind. Hollywood says it's my fault he's not Champion and to that I say, "what goes around comes around."



What is Randy's true objective

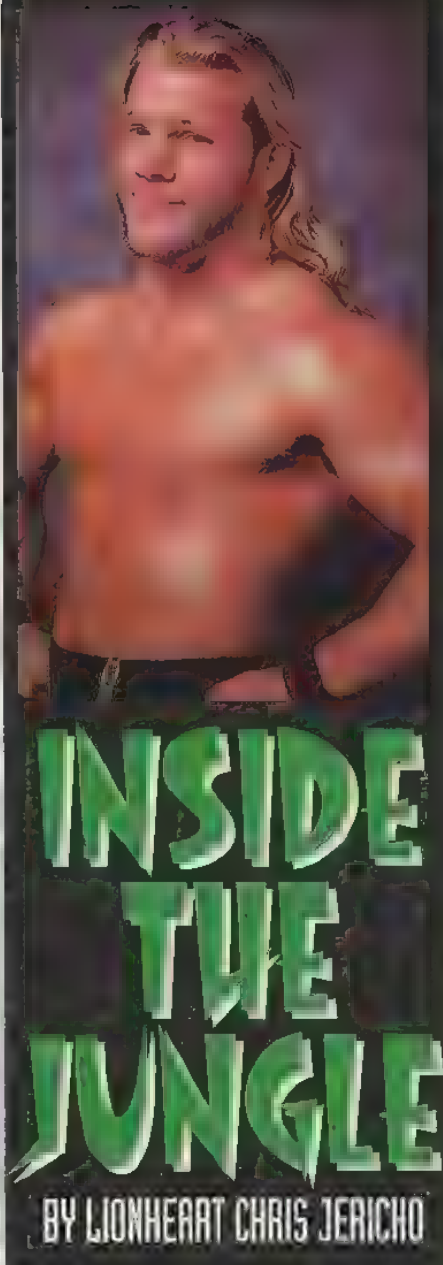
I'd like to welcome all of the beautiful Jerichoholics, who are checking out the column for the first time. But all is not well loyal subjects. Your role model is down and dirty, red hot steaming, 100% grade A angry. Why, you ask? Why am I metal thrashing mad? Why have I just trashed my immaculate home, paid for by you loving aficionados of my ability? One must simply look through the pages of this dirt rag to find the answer. One must only glance at the most ridiculous year end awards in the history of awards to find the truth. How can the greatest performer in the history of WCW — check that — in the history of the entire wrestling business — be ignored! That's right, your party host has received no invite to this soiree, no offer to enter this egomaniacal house party! And I will have vengeance!

Now, before you all storm the WCW headquarters en masse looking for vindication, looking for restitution, looking for Colin Bowman's melonhead on a silver platter, I offer this solution. I'm going to submit my reasons of how I am deserving of some kind of acknowledgment to the head bimbos at WCW on behalf of all the Jerichoholics worldwide.

Let's see if they have the guts to admit their mistake. The ball is in their court! I will force a recount! If I have to go to Ted Turner himself, this paragon of virtue will get what he deserves!!! Onward to the facts.

Wrestler of the Year: Come on, who else in WCW receives the kind of response that your hero garners? Who else drives the crowd into a literal frenzy? Who else boasts a fan club like the Jerichoholics Anonymous with over 3 ... 4 ... 7.2 million card carrying members in the central U.S. alone? Not to mention victories over Ric Flair, Sting, Scott Hall, The Giant and Barry Houston. That's a winner in my book, Regis!

Tag Team of the Year: Who else contributed to the sport the way that Eddy Guerrero and I did? We even received a letter of commendation from the Mulkey Brothers, praising our



enormous skills. I predict belts in our future!

Manager of the Year: I deserve this one for managing to wake up for all those early morning flights almost every day! It isn't easy being the role model for millions.

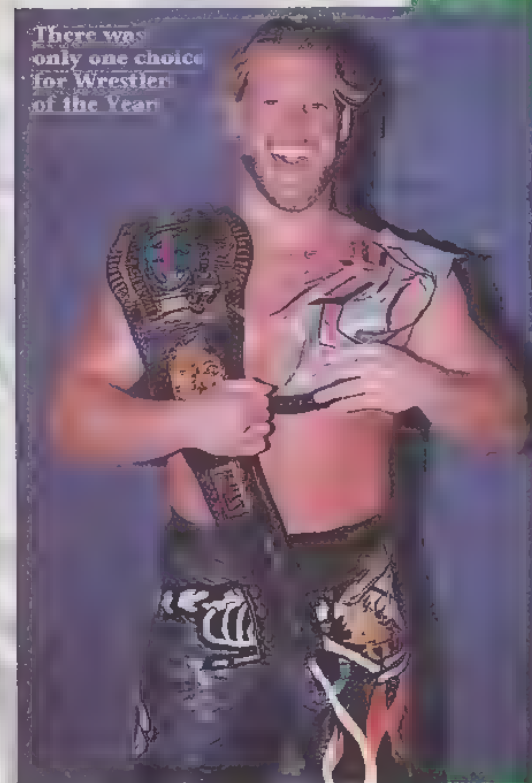
Match of the Year: All due respect to Eddy and Rey, but my June 12th classic versus Johnny Swinger blew that one away! This one had it all,

unbelievable hype, brilliant build up, thousands of screaming fans on the edge of their seats and a battle to the near death in the ring. Of course I emerged the victor ... barely!

Announcer of the Year: Of course I've never actually tried it, but how hard could it be? I'm sure any semi-intelligent monkey could do it and if there's any doubt, just look at Tenay, Schiavone, Heenan, Okerlund and the rest of the usual gang of idiots anchoring WCW broadcasts!

Well I'm off to Turner's office to give him my results. Last time I went in there he had me forcefully removed by security, but I had a baseball cap on, so he probably didn't recognize me. It's ok though, this time I'm not going to wear it!

Don't forget www.chrisjericho.com. Be good to one another and God bless you.



Of course you all know about the passing of Louis Spicolli.

Louis wasn't a good friend but he was a friend all the same. I'd known him for a few years, as we'd first met in Mexico and worked together in ECW as well.

I was happy to see Louis starting to get some direction in WCW and he was doing a good job, just beginning to find his character.

He was kind of like someone's little brother, who always sort of followed behind, asking stupid questions and making dumb jokes. But he was cool and he loved and respected the wrestling business.

God rest your soul and I'll see you on the other side.

CJ



READER ★★★★★

1996 Lex Luger
1995 Sting
1994 Hulk Hogan

anom'a'ly (noun)

First appeared 1603

1: deviation from the common rule: **IRREGULARITY**

2: something different, abnormal, peculiar, or not easily classified

When Lee Marshall used the term anomaly to describe DDP, he couldn't have chosen a better word. The DDPheonomena defies all logic.

Without a doubt DDP is the people's champion, a fan favorite of the highest form in everybody's eyes ... except DDP. He hates the term "fan favorite." As far as he is concerned he hasn't changed his style, the fans have changed their appreciation of it. DDP is still the consummate anti-hero.

Despite all of that, there was no disguising his surprise or delight at being presented with this award.

"For me? Are you kidding me? Wow, I can't believe it. What an incredible end to a story book year!"

And what a year it was.

When 1997 began, DDP was being pursued to join the NWO and nobody believed he would refuse. Time and time again DDP rejected their advances, the best way he knew via the Diamond Cutter, the most lethal maneuver in wrestling today.

"Macho Man" Randy Savage then made it his personal crusade to discredit Dallas and drive him from the sport. When Savage and Liz revealed to the world that Kimberly was really Mrs. DDP and then brutally assaulted her during Uncensored, they swapped into Page's real world and the hottest feud of 1997 had started. A feud that is still far from resolution.

Curt Hennig's arrival in WCW promised to alleviate the pressure on Dallas as Hennig agreed to team with him in the war against the NWO. Hennig though,

turned out to be yet another who would betray Page as he turned on him and left him to an NWO feeding frenzy.

DDP would have the last laugh on Hennig. At Starrcade, in front of a record breaking crowd in the nation's capital, DDP defeated Curt Hennig for the US Championship, capping a year that bordered on pure fantasy.

"Obviously marrying Kimberly has to

be the most important thing that has ever happened to me, but the past 12 months have been full of incredible highlights. The US Championship, being on the cover of WCW Magazine with Muhammad Ali and now this award — 'Macho Man', you may have been voted 'Harvard Lampons Man of the Year', but I am THE wrestler of the year. SNAP into that! BANG!!!!"

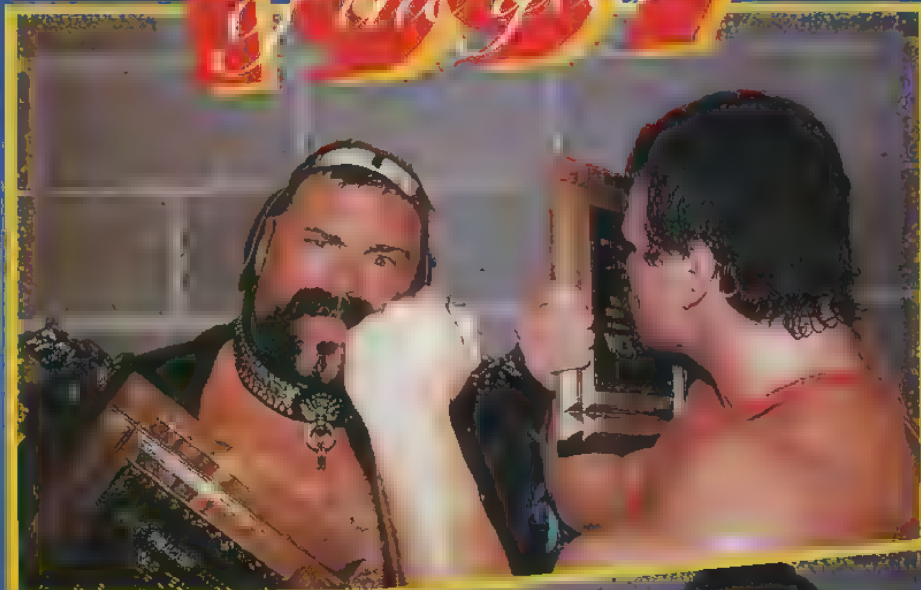


WRESTLER *of the year* 1997

DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE

The votes have been counted, so without further adieu, let's meet this year's honorees.

TAG TEAM of the year



guess home each night after he has had his WWE tail kicked.

The break up of The Steiners rocked the world. Sure they aren't the first brothers who have fallen out and feuded, but they were the most surprising. Not to this magazine though.

Scott Steiner had become an arrogant jerk. He believed he was the star of the team, forgetting just how successful Rick had been long before Scott had even joined the pro ranks.

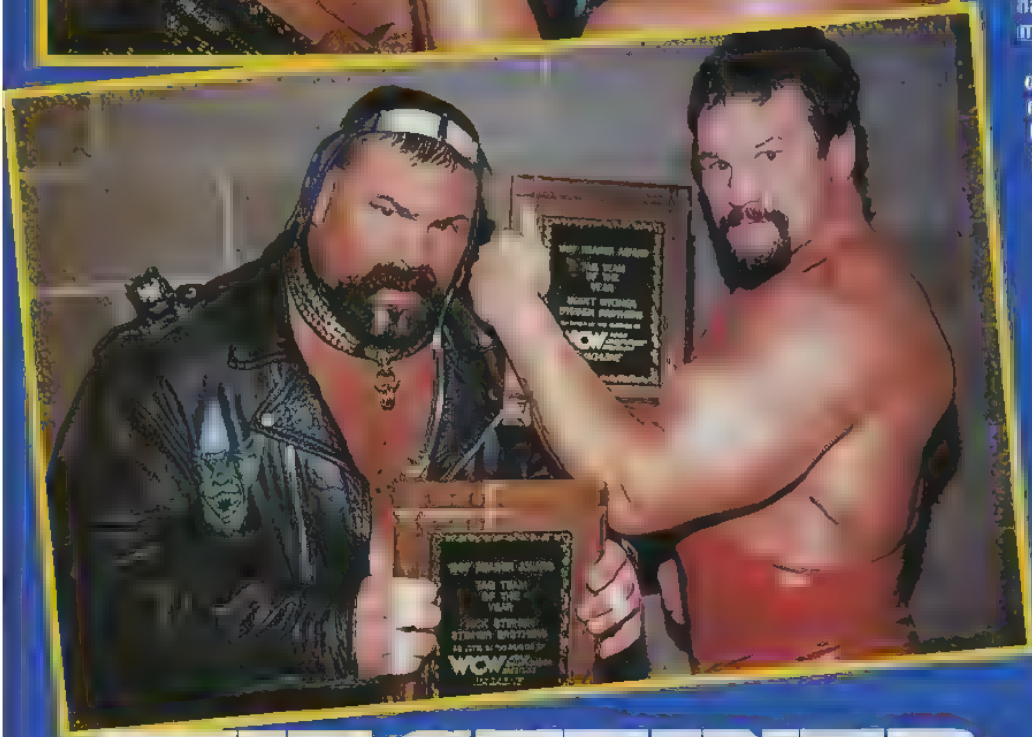
When we informed him that they had won the award, he just snapped at us. "It's about time too!"

When we asked him if he would pose with the award, he told us we would have to wait.

In fact we waited for over 3 hours, during which time a clearly embarrassed Rick apologized to us time and time again.

Finally, Scott showed up, but instead of posing with the plaque he persisted in flexing his biceps, sometimes even obscuring Rick completely from view. The fact we have any usable material at all is a miracle in itself.

Scott then refused to comment on the award, while Rick once again apologized on his behalf and thanked everyone for the recognition.



THE STEINER BROTHERS

1996 Harlem Heat
1995 Harlem Heat
1994 Nasty Boys

If it was up to us, Scott Steiner would be stripped of this award for the betrayal of his brother Rick at SuperBrawl VIII.

The only reason we have let him keep it, is because Rick asked us to let him keep it as a reminder of everything the two of them achieved as a team, when he

AWARD

1996

READER★★★★

TED DIBIASE

MANAGER

of the year

1996 Jimmy Hart

Will he or won't he? That was the burning question following the break up of the Steiners. Will Ted DiBiase put himself in the running for the 1996 Wrestler of the Year award?

Certainly, toward the end of 1995, Ted was taking a more active and physical role during matches involving his team. Several times he was seen trading blows with wrestlers from opposing teams and coming out on top during the exchanges.

DiBiase won't confirm or deny rumors that he may, himself, be stepping into the ring in 1996 and he was fairly tight-lipped about the painful Steiner Brother break-up. He was delighted to receive this award though.

"This means a lot to me. It means that the fans have truly forgiven all my past indiscretions. When I first jumped ship from the NWD, everybody believed it was part of a plot and I don't blame them. If I had've been them, I wouldn't have trusted me either, especially given my past track record.

"I'm glad they have and I will repay their faith in me, by supporting WCW to the best of my ability."

Who says a leopard can't change it's spots?



EDDY GUERRERO

VS.

REY MYSTERIO JR.

MATCH

of the year

The Date: October 26th, 1997

The Place: MGM Grand Garden Arena, Las Vegas

The Event: Halloween Havoc

Stake: The Cruiserweight Title against Rey Jr.'s title

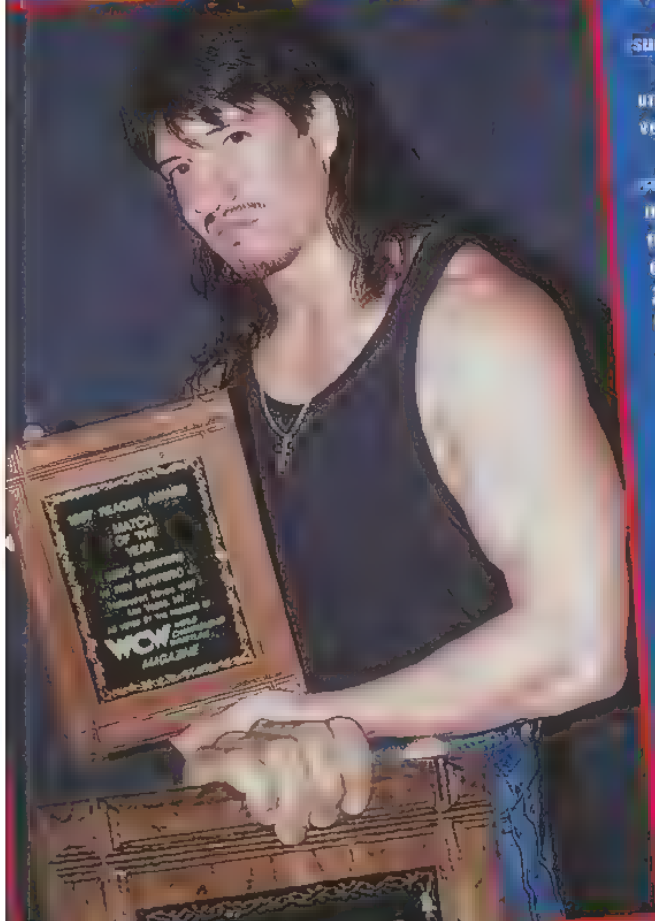
"Why does Mysterio have to be acknowledged on this award? He had nothing to do with making that match anything special. In fact this award should just be mine in recognition of the fact that every match I had was the best anywhere. Now where is my wrestler of the year award?"

So speaks Eddy Guerrero in receiving the award. If he has a flaw, it surely isn't his modesty.

What a match, what a night, what a win. WCW Magazine's readers were unanimous in their voting for this as their match of the year, and there were very few around who would disagree.

Eddy Guerrero and Rey Mysterio Jr. unveiled every move in their vast repertoire in this one-saw-battle that saw the advantage switch every minute. After nearly 14 minutes it would be Rey Jr.'s hand raised in the middle of the ring, keeping his identity secret (despite Guerrero's best efforts at ripping the mask off) and winning the Cruiserweight title for the 2nd time. The match though took a terrible toll on Rey's body. Don't believe the Jericho hype. Rey's knee problems and subsequent loss to Jericho have everything to do with this match and nothing to do with anything that Lyringheart had to offer.

Rey was thrilled with the award. "This is really nice and it is great to be recognized. WCW's fans have always been great toward me and hopefully this proves that the cruiserweights have really arrived in the land 'Where the Big Boys Play.' Thanks again, God bless you all."



1996

Chris Benoit

vs. Kevin Sullivan

1995

The Giant

vs. Hulk Hogan

READER

ANNOUNCER

of the year

1991 Joe Coker
1993 Bobby Heenan
1994 Bobby Heenan

LARRY ZBYSZKO



When Larry Z beat Eric Bischoff at Starrcade and secured that WCW Monday Nitro would remain under WCW control, it capped a fantastic year for the wily veteran. A year that WCW Magazine readers were keen to acknowledge.

"Larry may not be as witty as 'The Brain' or as knowledgeable as Tenay, but he can get the job done — behind the mic or inside the ring. For that he gets my vote," wrote Joe Sanders from PA, echoing the views of our readership.

Given Larry's heinous past as a wrestler, it was assumed that he would readily join the NWO. But Larry is a traditionalist and as Hall, Nash and Co, flew in the face of everything he believed in, he was quick to stand up and be counted.

At the end of the day, he stood firm and with everything WCW lost, stepped into the ring to show Eric Bischoff what it is like to be a "Big Boy" giving out a beating that the NWO "Boss" won't forget in a hurry.

Larry Z we salute you!

NEWCOMER

of the year

1996 Chris Jericho
1995 Eddy Guerrero

Midway through 1995 we witnessed an early appearance by the tempest known as Bill Goldberg. It was a case of crash, bang, wallop as he destroyed his hapless opponent in under 30 seconds, and that included the ring entrances.

Right then we knew we were witnessing the start of something really special. Never before have we seen a wrestler, or indeed any athlete who

has made such an impact on a sport in such a short time. Bill Goldberg is a phenom.

Since that incredible early display, Goldberg has continually run roughshod over every opponent with no regard for name or reputation. As his opponents have gotten tougher along the road to the top, the matches have lasted a little longer, but only by a short while.

At WCW Magazine, we believe he has an incredible future ahead of him and clearly you all agree. The buzz of excitement and the crescendo of noise that precedes every Goldberg match is testimony to that.

Upon receipt of this award, Goldberg told us: "You ain't seen nothin' yet! Very soon every title in WCW will be in my control, just as soon as those yellow-bellied champions can sign on the dotted line to face me!"



BILL GOLDBERG

Special Award

ARN ANDERSON

In recognition of all the great efforts and sacrifices Arn gave in his pursuit of excellence inside the ring throughout his career.

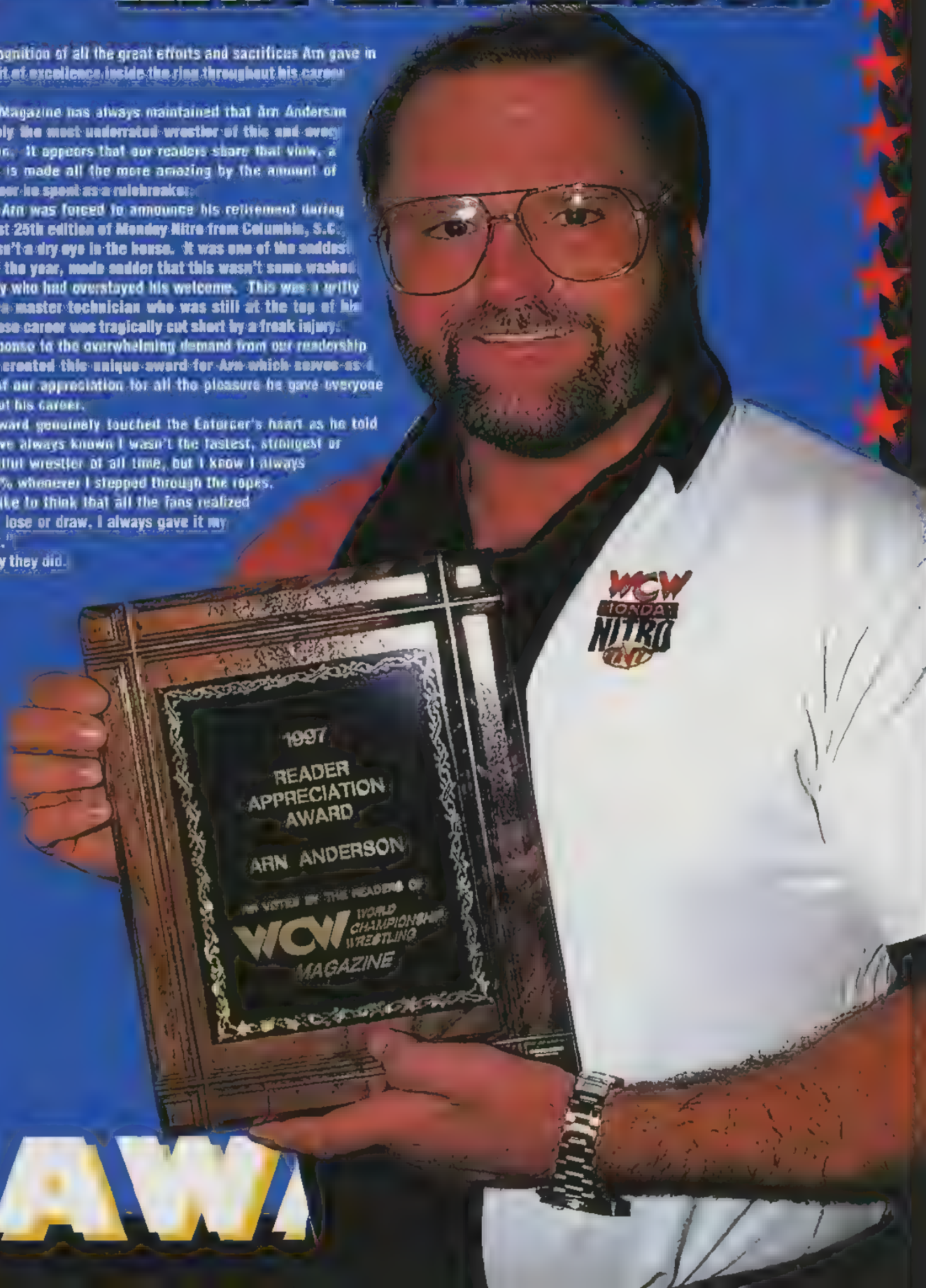
WCW Magazine has always maintained that Arn Anderson is probably the most underrated wrestler of this and every generation. It appears that our readers share that view, a fact that is made all the more amazing by the amount of Arn's career he spent as a rulebreaker.

When Arn was forced to announce his retirement during the August 25th edition of Monday Nitro from Columbia, S.C. there wasn't a dry eye in the house. It was one of the saddest events of the year, made sadder that this wasn't some washed up nobody who had overstayed his welcome. This was a witty veteran, a master technician who was still at the top of his game whose career was tragically cut short by a freak injury.

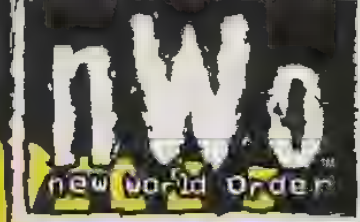
In response to the overwhelming demand from our readership we have created this unique award for Arn which serves as a gesture of our appreciation for all the pleasure he gave everyone throughout his career.

The award genuinely touched the Enforcer's heart as he told us, "I have always known I wasn't the fastest, strongest or most skillful wrestler of all time, but I know I always gave 100% whenever I stepped through the ropes. I would like to think that all the fans realized that win, lose or draw, I always gave it my best shot."

Clearly they did.



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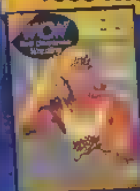
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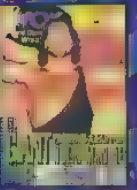
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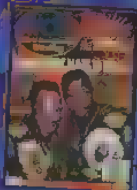
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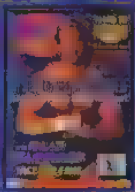
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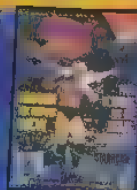
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Mondays: Mike Tenay

Tuesdays: Ross Forman

Wednesdays: Mark Madden

Thursdays: Lee Marshall

Fridays: Mark Madden

Saturdays: "Mean" Gene Okerlund

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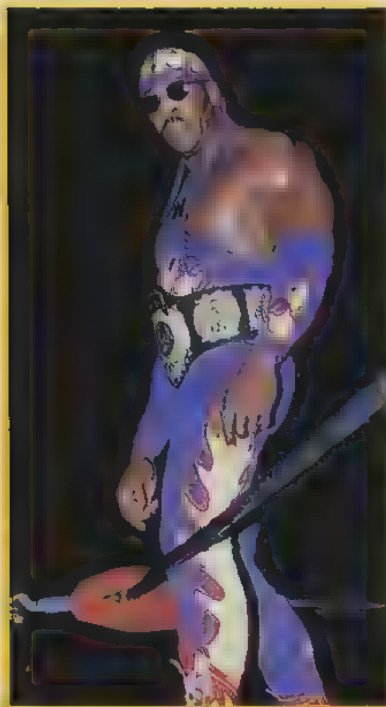
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SuperBrawl was, to use Mean Gene-style hyperbole, one of the greatest events in WCW history. Sting won the World title. The Outsiders established themselves as totally dominant within WCW's tag team division by capturing the belts from the Steiner Brothers — with a little help from "White Thunder" Scott Steiner, who dramatically turned on his brother, Rick. An emotional Juventud Guerrera was unmasked by Chris Jericho.

But someday SuperBrawl may be remembered, above all else, for one thing.

For being Booker T.'s coming out party.

Booker T., of course, had already gained fame as one of the best tag team wrestlers ever by capturing the WCW World Tag titles seven times along with his brother, Stevie Ray.



When Stevie Ray was injured, WCW decided to de-emphasize the tag team division, so Booker T. gingerly started a career as a singles wrestler.

He achieved notoriety almost instantly by pinning Disco Inferno for the WCW TV title, then continued to plug along wrestling solo. It wasn't like he was totally devoid of singles experience — he once did a singles stint under the name "G.I. Bro" for a small promotion in Texas. On second thought, maybe he was totally devoid of singles experience. Absolutely bereft, really.

Things didn't look too good when Booker T. got beat for the TV title by Rick Martel, a guy coming to WCW after a long absence from the ring.



Booker T. Exposed - as a Winner

But then, at SuperBrawl, it all came together.

Booker T was in the ring for over 25 minutes.

He beat two men, one after the other, with the second man coming in fresh as the proverbial daisy.

He dominated.

He matured.

He became a singles star right in front of our eyes.

"And I could have wrestled another match," Booker T. said, following his twin wins over Martel and Saturn. "I mean that, I felt so good in there. There were times when I got a little tired, sure, but I never really blew up.

"I feel like this was a big night for me. I'm sure people were wondering about me as a singles wrestler."

Wonder no more.

Booker T.'s got the stamina of a singles wrestler. And he's got the moves of a singles wrestler. Harlem Heat were never overly dependent on double-team moves. Booker's got the crescent kick at his disposal. The Harlem Hangover. The sidewalk slam. That deal when he kind of breakdances to his feet after falling — it's irrelevant, but I kinda like it

Booker T has got it all

It's great to see. This is a man from fairly humble beginnings, both in terms of life and in terms of wrestling. And even when he was a bad guy, he was never a bad guy. He always had time to shoot the breeze with fans, always had time to be nice.

We may never see Harlem Heat as a collective again. I expect Steve Ray to come back and have success as a single, too.

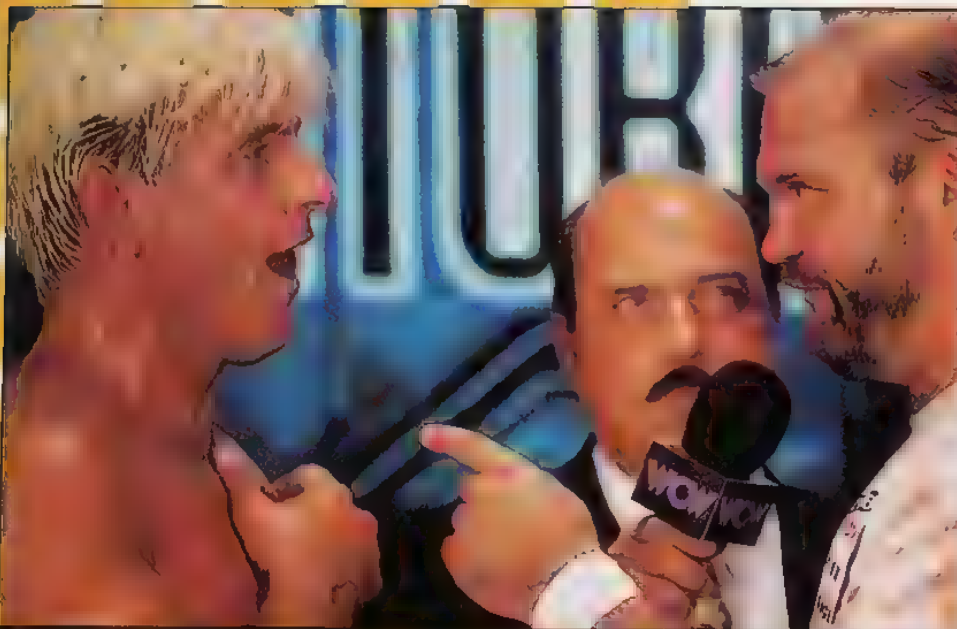
But I expect Booker T to be a World Champion someday.

He's got the look. He's got the rap. He's got the size. I smell money.

(Mark Madden hosts the WCW Hotline on Wednesdays and Fridays.

He is the editor of Penguins Report, a hockey publication based in Pittsburgh, and hosts a sports talk show on WTAE-AM 1250.)





In the wake of his early retirement Arn Anderson has written a book *A Look Behind the Curtain*. In life, just as he was in the ring, Anderson doesn't bother with fancy metaphors and glitzy catch phrases to get his point across. This book is just like the Arn we grew to know and respect over his long and lustrous career: to the point and very entertaining. It's all in there, including Arn's humble beginnings as a butcher, lifting hundreds of boxes of meat daily and learning valuable lessons along the way. "I did learn

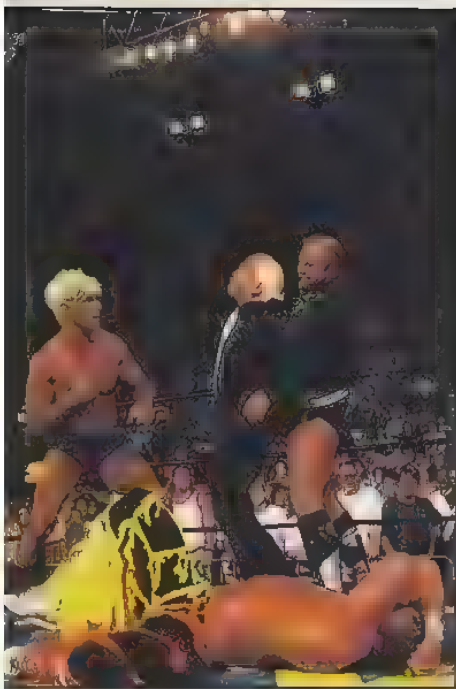
A LOOK BEHIND THE CURTAIN

"The Enforcer"

**Invites Us
Into His
World**

By Patty Therre





one very important thing on that job that really helped me in the wrestling business. There was one string of meat cutters that came in early in the morning and we had to cut enough meat to last through the night until the store closed at midnight. What that told me early on is that when you were sick, or had to be out, everyone else had to double up, there was no second string they could call in.

"Just like in the wrestling business, if you get hurt and can't wrestle in a match, a lot of people are going to go home disappointed. There may be another wrestler they can stick in the spot, but there's a percentage of the crowd that paid just to see you, that they're really going to be (ticked) off," he tells us early on in his book.

Hence the Arn Anderson pro wrestling work ethic. Show up, do your job to the best of your ability, and try to give the fans what they want. Whether you loved him or hated him, Anderson was always there, putting his all into every match he was in, giving the fans their money's worth.

The book covers Arn's life from early on until the present and provides us with many never before told stories of the road and antics that go on behind that curtain that separates us from the world of pro wrestling. But don't forget humor. Arn dishes out his anecdotes with a light, nostalgic feel that reveals the real man penning the book instead of a character.

"... My oldest son, Barrett, was

around five or six years old. He was running around in his underwear as kids his age often do," Anderson writes, "His mother told him he needed to get dressed because company was coming over and you shouldn't let other people see you in your underwear. His response was, 'But daddy's on TV in his underwear all the time.'"

Well, to a little kid, Arn may have looked like he ran around in his skivvies for a living, but the millions of fans who followed Arn's progression from a struggling, young wrestler in 1982 to The Enforcer of the revered Four Horsemen, know that he is the yardstick by which wrestlers are measured both in and out of the ring.

Although no longer able to actively wrestle due to a neck injury, Anderson is still very active behind the scenes in WCW, acting as a Road Agent and assisting during the televised productions.

But would he consider a position in front of the cameras, perhaps announcing, where his considerable skills behind the microphone would be put to good use? "Absolutely. I have enjoyed the microphone, however it is up to Senior Management what my role can be," says Arn. Too bad it wasn't up to the fans.

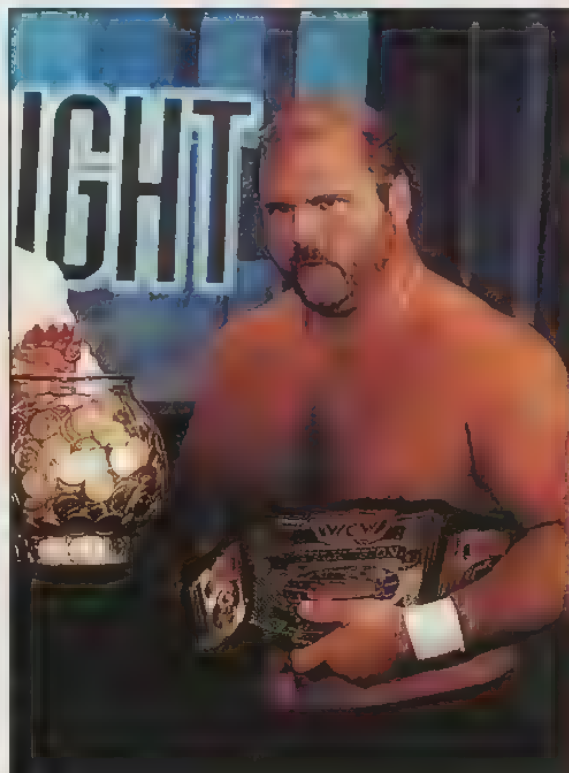
According to our mail, Arn is in demand and, since his now famous retirement speech, the fans are rabid for him, any way they can get him.

"When Arn came out with Ric Flair a while back to address the crowd, I felt like the luckiest person in the world to be in the arena to see that live. Ric Flair and Arn Anderson in the ring at the same time again sent chills up my spine. It really brought home for me how much I missed Arn on the microphone. His interviews were always riveting," says Doug Delile, one ardent "Enforcer" fan who wrote into "Tag Talk" recently.

One thing we don't have to worry about is Arn disappearing from



WCW altogether. "I plan to perform whatever duties that WCW wants as well as do some motivational speaking (corporate and colleges primarily) and, of course book signings. I believe I will be joining Ric Flair in his Gold's gyms as well. Anything WCW wants from me, I will be glad to give. This organization has been very good to me and my family over the years ... it is my home," says Anderson.





And, in *A Look Behind the Curtain*, Anderson invites us into that home, detailing such stories as how the original Four Horsemen were formed, how the Stud Stable came about, the much talked about Sid Vicious/Arn Anderson altercation, the NWO parody skit on his retirement speech, and much more. He takes us into the locker rooms, the hotels and on the road where no fan ever gets to go, and he does it all with the candor we've come to expect from Arn Anderson, the wrestler and the man.

The book, with its nearly 300 pages of text and pictures, is foreworded by long time best-friend Ric Flair and offers a special commentary by Ted DiBiase and "The Bullet" Bob Armstrong.

Currently, there is a special limited edition offer only through Scoops website (www.scoopscentral.com), on pre-publication special hard covered editions, the only hard covered editions that will be printed

GRAPPLE STARS IN BAR KNIFE BUST-UP

MATTHEW ACTON

The first 1000 people who order the book will get a special letter from the publisher guaranteeing them their book, a never before seen autographed photo of Arn, a publishing company T shirt and an inscribed autographed copy of the book.

After the 1000 are gone (pre-orders are coming in daily) regular soft cover editions can be purchased through the internet on Arn's own website (www.arnanderson4ever.com) and also on www.1wrestling.com. Any inquiries can be sent directly to the publisher at dfm1td@erols.com.

Don't have access to the net? You can purchase the book by completing the order form on this page.

The book is tentatively slated to go on sale on April 15th and will not be available in bookstores.

What inspired Arn Anderson to write a book? "I was never really accessible as a wrestler and I wanted to thank the fans who supported me either by cheering or booing me," says Anderson. "All the great organizations have had books about them and the Horsemen story needed to be told ... by the "Enforcer."

If you are an Arn Anderson fan, a fan of the Four Horsemen or just curious about what goes on behind the pro wrestling scenes when the cameras are off and the lights are lowered, this book is a must read for you!

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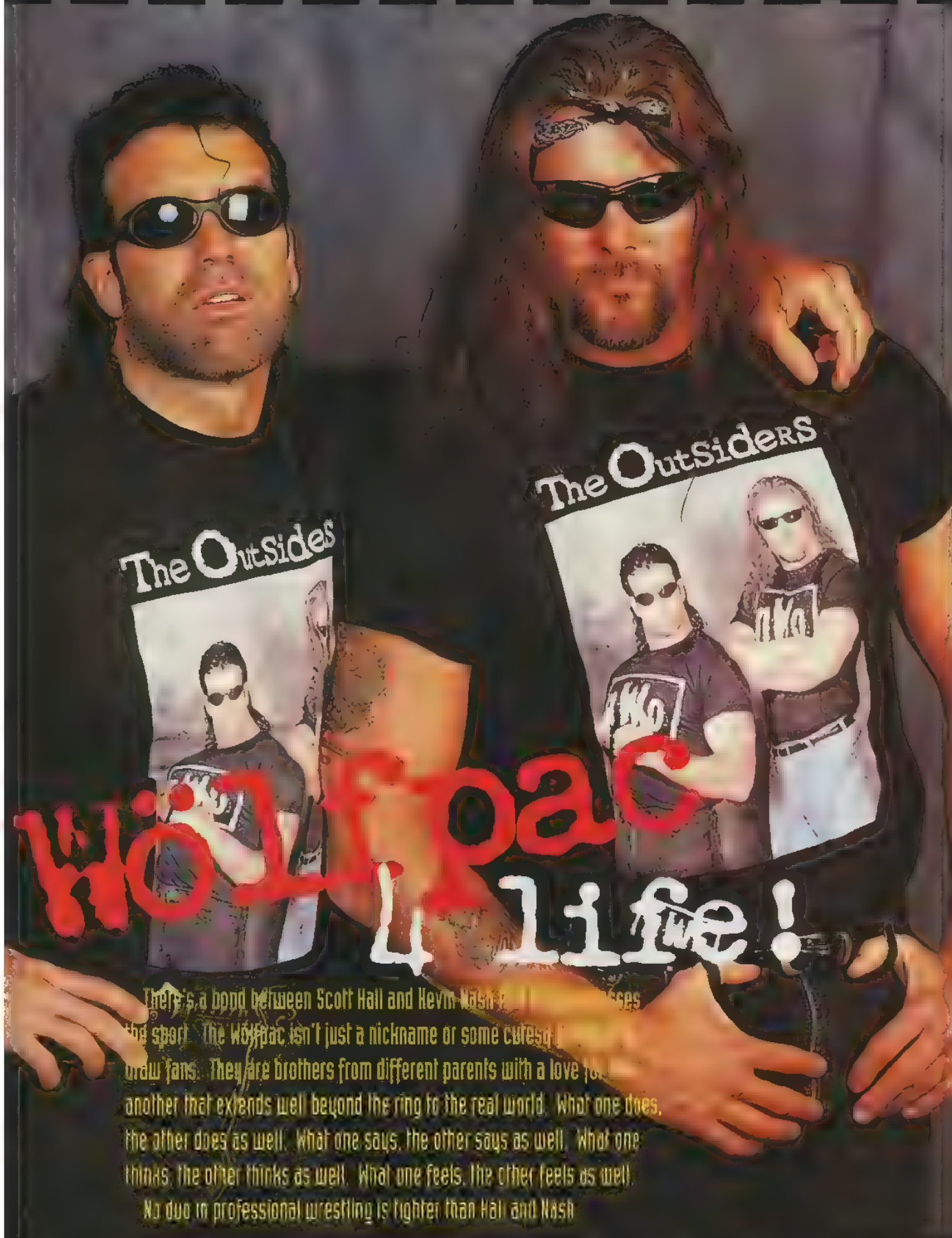
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There's a bond between Scott Hall and Kevin Nash that transcends the sport. The Wolfpac isn't just a nickname or some cutesy gimmick to draw fans. They are brothers from different parents with a love for each other that extends well beyond the ring to the real world. What one does, the other does as well. What one says, the other says as well. What one thinks, the other thinks as well. What one feels, the other feels as well.

No duo in professional wrestling is tighter than Hall and Nash.

Wölpac

Kevin Nash



WCW/NWO Magazine recently spent time separately with the Outsiders to research for the first Wölpac Special Report, starting with Kevin Nash's State of The (Wrestling) Union address.

In a matter of minutes, Kevin Nash talked about May-o-naise from the movie *Officer and a Gentleman*, *Baywatch* beauty Pamela Anderson and the fabled Cleopatra. And the conversation is wrestling-related.

Hey, this is just normal Nash, The NWO mainstay with a funny bone that clearly runs throughout his 7-foot-1 frame.

Nash's favorite target of late is Diamond Dallas Page who, it seems, has had his ribs taped since DDP was in high school. "The only one wrapped up more than DDP is King Tut," Nash said. "I don't know if Page deems himself a pharaoh of some sort, or what. I don't know if he's got some pyramid-power thing going, or what. He does that pyramid thing before he goes into his finish. I guess he's just got some fascination with the Egyptian lifestyle. And yeah, he does even walk like an Egyptian. His wife, Kimberly, could be like Cleopatra, who was noted for her incredible appetite, if you know what I mean."

"While I'm on the subject of DDP, did you see the last issue of WCW Magazine, with Page sucking up to another celebrity, boxing legend Muhammad Ali, on the cover? 'Man does he make me sick.'"

There are several other subjects that irk Nash and also, naturally, a few that he enjoys. Here's Nash's take a some of the major players, themes in the sport:

OVERVIEW ON THE SPORT HEADING INTO THE SPRING

"I don't understand how, week after week, the WCW commentators continue to state how The NWO is in disarray. As they make those comments, we just continue to get stronger. We added Dusty Rhodes to the mix, then followed that with Scott Steiner. It looks to me like, each and every day, we're expanding while WCW is getting smaller by the day."

"So why do the WCW broadcasters still continue to say what they do? Probably because they know they can't beat us in the ring, so why not try to create controversy through commentating? But they better watch out because, within the next 18 months, they all are going to be with out a job."

TAG TEAM DIVISION

"There's just no one out there that can actually give us a run for our money. So, as far as I can tell, the Tag Team Championship belts will stay with us for years. Who are the top contenders? Probably The Villano Brothers, followed by High Voltage. Does Sonny (Onoo) have any guys incoming on a visa?"

WATCHING THE SOULED-OUT VIDEO TAPE OF THE GIANT FALLING NECK-FIRST DURING NASH'S JACKKNIFE POWERBOMB

"Each time I watch it, it's just that much more enjoyable. Others might cringe, but simply think, 'Back and to the left. Back and to the left.' I just think The Giant panicked. I don't think he thought anyone could manhandle him, yet he got snatched by someone who was stronger than him and, instead of just absorbing the blow, tried to do a defensive maneuver by getting his arms back behind him and, well, the laws of physics are simple: what goes up must come down, and The Giant went boom."

J.J. DILLON

"There obviously is some animosity between him and I from our past relationship in another organization. I know that he's always had it out for me. He's always been an administrator; I've always been a locker-room lawyer. There are no secrets there. I make his life miserable; I've always made his life miserable; I'll continue to make his life miserable. I know he wakes up in the middle of the night screaming my name."

BEST NITRO GIRL?

Chae, truly a "first-round draft choice," he said.

WCW vs. NWO

"It's funny, you can talk about The NWO guys forever because it's such an incredible, star-studded roster. Then you go to the WCW side of things and you can talk about one or two guys. After that, it's useless."

JUVI JUICE

"Oh, yeah, that's something that has been banned in 37 States, and is pending in 13 others. It's a phenomenon, though."

GOLDBERG

"At this point in his career, he's an enigma; he's made an impact, there's no doubt about that. He's got size and incredible strength, it appears. I haven't been in the ring with him, so I can't give you a completely fair analysis. It looks like he's got some Sombo or (other form of) submission, competitive-fighting background. Plus, he played in the NFL, and I don't know too many guys who played in the NFL for a few years who weren't physically and mentally tough. But, he hasn't really gone against any topnotch caliber athletes in The NWO, or even WCW. So, I guess ya gotta say the jury is still out on him — until he goes against myself, Scott Hall, Scott Norton, or someone like that."

RAVEN'S FLOCK

"They just need to get the flock outta Dodge."

"They aren't anything but the poor man's NWO. They seem to emulate our gang tactics, but the emulation stops there. I think Raven's a talent; Saturn's a talent; the rest of them are just kind of





those guys you send into battle first and if they survive, fine; if not, fine too. The Flock only exists because we let them at this time. Any time we want to squash them, we could, and I think they know that. That's why they haven't interfered in anything we've done. And they're not going to.

"I'd say they're not as dumb as they look, but that's still up in the air."

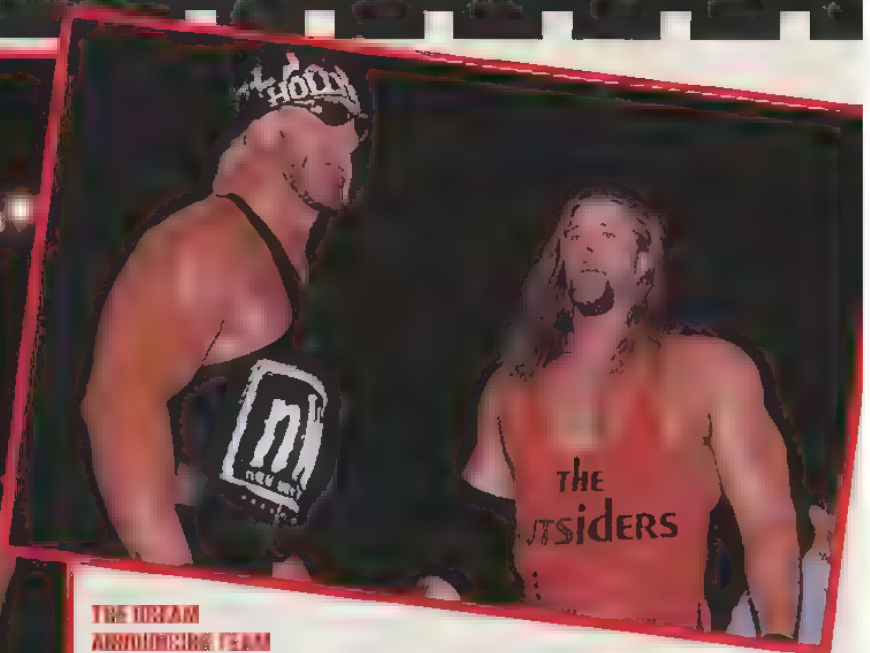
"I like Mike Tenay. I think he's knowledgeable. He has a lot of insight into the sport. He knows backgrounds and history. To me, when I'm watching the broadcast as a spectator at home, he's a real insightful commentator."

However, I think he needs to wear Hawaiian shirts, but that's just my opinion."

POOPY TAIL DOG'S RUNAWAY

"I think Bobby Heenan is kind of out of his element. He's at his best when he's riding the fence, but they've kind of pushed him into being a pro-WCW backer. But Bobby Heenan is a bad-guy type. Always has been a bad-guy commentator, always will be a bad-guy commentator. And when you put Bobby Heenan in that situation, I think Bobby Heenan is the best in the business. But, until they let him do that ...

"I think Bobby Heenan would be great with us, but that's down the line."



**THE DREAM
AWAKENING TEAM**

"I thought Eric was a hell of an announcer. He'd be there, along with Rick Rude and Pam Anderson. I'd work the hand-held (microphone).

THURSDAY THINGS

"As a professional wrestler, I don't think having too much work, too much exposure is something you don't ever want. With the (ratings) numbers that it does, it's good. Plus, it's good in that it gives the platform for guys who don't normally get to showcase their ability on Nitro."

1990-1991

"It's a phenomenon. It's probably been the hottest thing that's hit

CONCLUSION

"Is he a wrestler?"

INDEX

"Bret Hart came in here and stuck his nose in our business, so we're just looking for the perfect time and place to give him the proverbial 'beating of his life.'"

"He left one situation where he had a lot of animosity, and has just walked into another. I think Bret Hart is in for a very long beating."



STING

"Man, this guy's wrestled, what, two days in five years, yet continually gets World Heavyweight title shots, whereas I've been working my butt off, yet haven't gotten a single World Heavyweight title shot. I don't get it; I just don't get it. They say he's been loyal; he didn't go to another company. That's only because he didn't have anywhere to go, no one wanted him. He's kind of like May-onaise on Officer and a Gentleman."

"ROWDY" RODDY PIPER

"Isn't he dead? Is he really still alive?"

"Piper is another guy who I don't understand. He goes off, does his own thing, then just comes back and deems himself worthy enough to throw down the hammer of what he feels. Hey, who is on this WCW Executive Committee anyway? Is there really a Committee? Or is it just another one of their brain-trusts who ...

"As far as I'm concerned, there's no place for Piper in this sport. Perhaps we can get him a job in one of the merchandise booths at the house shows.

For me, there's no challenge to Roddy Piper. The only challenge is to make him look like he's got a chance. The fact of the matter is, I don't know if there's a real challenger now competing in the sport. I haven't found one. I've been here for two years and haven't really found a challenger. I know a lot of people deem The Giant as the future of the sport, but, if that's the case, the future is quite cloudy right now. If he's healthy and his mind is right, I think he's The Franchise of the business, but that's a big question mark."

Wölpac Scott Hall

He boiled for 21 days, then exploded at UnCensored.

Scott Hall, the working class hero of the NWO, couldn't get to Mobile, Ala., in mid-March quick enough. Not after Super Brawl VIII on Feb. 22nd, at the Cow Palace in San Francisco, Calif. Not after being denied his SuperBrawl shot at the World Heavyweight Championship. Not after "Rowdy" Roddy Piper, speaking on behalf of the WCW Executive Committee, refused to honor Hall's hard earned title shot.

Talk about a conspiracy.

Evidently the WCW Theory is to attack the NWO out of the ring because they ain't winning the in-ring war.

"I guess I didn't get my shot because I just don't have enough political stroke," said the understandably bitter Hall.

Think about it, last November, at World War 3 just outside of Detroit, Mich., Hall bested 60 challengers to win the annual three-ring, 60-man Battle Royal to garner a World Heavyweight title shot at SuperBrawl.

But not according to J.J. Dillon, Piper or any of the misfits on the WCW Executive Committee. It seems that, just because going into Super Brawl the title was vacant, Hall wouldn't get his shot at the tradition-filled San Francisco-based Pay-Per-View.

Justice?

No way. Especially in light of another Dillon dictate that occurred at Super Brawl. Let's jump to the Television title Picture. Days before SuperBrawl, Dillon declared that Booker T. would challenge then-champion Rick Martel in a rematch, with the winner — almost immediately after the three-count — then facing Saturn of Raven's Flock

Gee, this sounds a lot like the World title picture, or at least how the World title picture should have been.

Just imagine the excitement for a three-way battle for the belt with Hogan, Hall and Sting. Too bad the WCW Executive Committee wasn't thinking.

"I've worked too long, too hard, to have some guy in a skirt tell me I don't get a shot at making my dreams come true," Hall said. "I've wrestled Piper in the past, and if he wants a part of me in the present, hey, no problem. Piper simply made me a martyr to the wrestling fans. WCW preaches tradition, but didn't live up to that at SuperBrawl. I guess The

NWO's influence has crept into every pore of WCW."

Hall has been a Tag Team Champion on numerous occasions, and a champion of other titles in the past. But, let's fact facts, the World Heavyweight Championship belt is the belt, the prize, the trophy. Case in point: Rey Mysterio, Jr., who enjoys winning — and holding — the WCW Cruiserweight Championship Belt, but, wants to prove he can fight anyone, in any weight class. And for Mysterio to prove his immortality in the sport — or for anyone — the World Heavyweight Championship belt is all that matters.

It's the golden egg that everyone wants to snatch.

"I don't think anyone gets into the business to be a hard-working nobody. Everyone wants to be "The Man," including Scott Hall," Hall said. "I try to concentrate on positive things, although I'm not always successful at it. I know my time will come, though. Piper's decision wasn't the first time I had been cheated in the wrestling business, and no doubt won't be the last; you learn that early on in this profession. I'm just gonna keep showing up and doing what I do best.

"If I'm not wearing the World Championship belt, I feel like there are a lot of people out there who still dig Scott Hall. But I want the belt."

Hall, heading into UnCensored, stood in the same company as Arn Anderson, Kevin Sullivan, Ken Patera, Wahoo McDaniel and so many other wrestling legends: those who reached mega-





stardom, but never held the World Heavyweight Championship. In fact, Piper himself also ranks in that class. Too bad he didn't realize that fact when he announced the Hogan-Sting SuperBrawl rematch. And in the process, Piper might have made one of the biggest villains in the NWO, Hall, a fan-favorite, because what happened to him — bottom line — was not fair.

So why did it happen? Everyone's got an opinion, starting with Hall. Again, can you say, conspiracy?

"Maybe because I'm an NWO member and also, because I'm an Outsider," Hall suggested. "Why can't Kev use his finishing move, the Jackknife Powerbomb? Because The Giant got hurt? Hey, a lot of guys get hurt in this business, and they don't ban moves just because of one injury.

"I never claim to be the smartest guy around ... I just want what's due to me. And, given the shot, I can beat any given wrestler on any given night."

His words, mind you, aren't just self-promotion. Hall speaks the truth. He's beyond accomplished, into the "awesome" category. Hall is a trendsetter who performs with the best of them. In any business. Hey, Hall's former employer had someone impersonate him after he and Nash left.

Gee, what's that saying, Imitation is the greatest form of flattery?

"It's been a great ride, a real roller-coaster, a lot of ups and downs, ever since my first national TV exposure (in the sport), when I wrestled in the (now-defunct) AWA in Minneapolis," said Hall, who actually first started in Charlotte, with the Crockett Promotions.

"This is the life I wanted, the career I wanted. I want to be able to close out my

career as having been the World Champion at least once. It's like the quarterback who wants to win the SuperBowl at least once."

And let's remember, John Elway finally led Denver to the Super Bowl this year.

"I want the title situation explained to me, although I know it never will be. Why didn't I get my shot at SuperBrawl? Because Hogan's got more stroke than me? I don't understand," Hall said. "It's not a secret, some Pay-Per-Views traditionally do better than others. SuperBrawl is one that this company has a deep history in. I was really looking forward to being the main event of SuperBrawl VIII. Then it was taken away from me, but for what reason? I guess I'll never know. But I know I will put (this episode) in the 'ole memory bank, perhaps, if need be, as an inspiration when I'm down one day.

HEY, YO....

With two short, simple words, Hall has the wrestling world in the palm of his hand. The fans are there, ready to scream and shout their support — for WCW or the NWO — and Hall, with microphone in hand, starts his schtick. "OK, you know the drill; it's survey time."

The arena erupts. Handmade signs appear everywhere, hawking, balking, barking and harping on everything under the sun.

Are you, WCW?

Or, are you here to see, the N-W-O?

"I only did the survey because the audience likes to participate," Hall said. "The thing that got a lot of dissension among some of the guys in the back was, if you

notice, when we first did the survey, they all were in NWO towns. And that was for a reason; I don't do many things by accident, remember. Now, though, the responses have changed. WCW has become more popular."

Here are a few final thoughts from Hall:

ON THE SCOTT HALL LOOK

"It's self-created. The Superman curly-q, slicked-back hair, toothpick and stubble. For one thing, I thought it looked cool and was different. Also, it makes it real easy to be Scott Hall. I'm happy. I've been blessed, a lot of my dreams have come true."

ON BILL GOLDBERG

"Whenever this cat is willing to see how good he really is, I wouldn't mind a shot at him."

ON LARRY ZBYSZKO

"Larry is not quite as good as he used to be, and he never was that good. He had his moment in the sun; he had his paydays. But the wrestling world has passed Larry by. He's a decent announcer, but his days in the ring are over. I would hate to see Larry go out with some really severe injury just because his ego is leading him to keep wrestling. He's always talking about golf. I think that would be a good career for him."



Although the 2-Question Interview was initially designed to highlight the out-of-the-ring lives of WCW and NWO stars, it seems many fans wanna know wrestling-related questions. So, this month we answer the questions submitted by Matt Weiss of San Lorenzo, Calif.

2Q

two question

INTERVIEW

The Questions:

1. What is your favorite arena?
2. What move, performed by someone else, do you like to watch and impresses you?

SONNY ONOO

1. United Center (Chicago, Ill.) and the Fukuoka Dome (Japan)
2. Anything that doesn't involve me

BRAD ARMSTRONG

1. The Omni in Atlanta and The Georgia Dome
2. Chris Benoit's Crippler Crossface

SCOTTY RIGGS

1. Baltimore (Md.) Arena
2. Raven's DDT

PRINCE IAUKEA

1. Arco Arena (Sacramento, Calif.)
2. Scott Hall's Outsider's Edge

BRIT HART

1. Madison Square Garden (New York City)
2. Benoit's Crippler Crossface

KONNAN

1. Auditorio de Tijuana
2. Hector Garza's Corkscrew Plancha

DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE

1. United Center, Alamodome, Independence Arena (Charlotte, N.C.) and The Georgia Dome
2. The move, DDT

JIMMY HART

1. United Center, Philadelphia Spectrum, Madison Square Garden and the Mid-South Coliseum
2. Barb's Kick

STEVE McMICHAEL

1. United Center
2. Rey Mysterio's Huracanrana

HAMMER

1. Baltimore (Md.) Arena
2. DDP's Diamond Cutter

LIZMARK

1. Arena Mexico (Mexico City)
2. Juventud Guerrera's 450-Splash off the top rope.

HECTOR GARZA

1. Arena Mexico
2. Rey Mysterio's Huracanrana

ELIZABETH
1. Miami (Fla.) Arena
2. Randy Savage's Elbow-Off-The-Top-Rope



KEVIN NASH
1. Madison
Square Garden
2. The Outsider's
Edge



JAMES J. DILLON
1. Madison
Square Garden
2. Mysterio's
Huracanrana

FED DIBIASE

1. A full one
2. Diamond Cutter

RAGE

1. Budokan Hall (Tokyo)
2. The Great Muta's Moonsault

RICK RUDE

1. Madison Square Garden
2. Curt's Hennig-Plex

LARRY ZBYSZKO

1. Shea Stadium
2. Goldberg's Spear

CHRIS JERICO

1. Korakuen Hall (Japan)
2. Billy Kidman's Shooting Star Press "I tried it once and broke my arm."

KAZ HAYASHI

1. Sumo Arena (Tokyo)
2. Ultimo Dragon and Eddy Guerrero

CHRIS BENOIT

1. Korakuen Hall
2. Rev Mysterio's Huracanrana

KAOS

1. Budokan Hall
2. Savage's Elbow-off-the-Top-Rope

**ARN
ANDERSON**
1. Charlotte (N.C.)
Coliseum
2. Benoit's Crippler
Crossface

SICK BOY

1. The Spectrum (Philadelphia)
2. Kevin Nash's Jack-knife Powerbomb

LODI

1. The Alamo Dome
2. DDP's Diamond Cutter

BOOKER T.

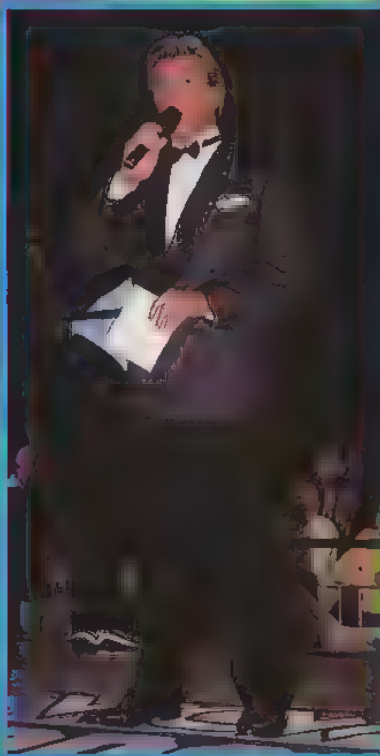
1. Joe Louis Arena (Detroit, Mich.)
2. Nash's Jack-knife Powerbomb

SCOTT NORTON

1. Sumo Palace
2. Harlem Harigover

MICHAEL BUFFER

1. The Alamo Dome in San Antonio and the United Center
2. Savage's Elbow-off-the-Top-Rope, Lex Luger's Torture Rack and The Giant's Chokeslam



THE GIANT

1. Norfolk (Va.) Scope
2. DDP's Diamond Cutter "It's like a hand grenade... you never know when it's gonna go off."

SATURN

1. Fleet Center (Boston, Mass.)
2. Raven's DDT

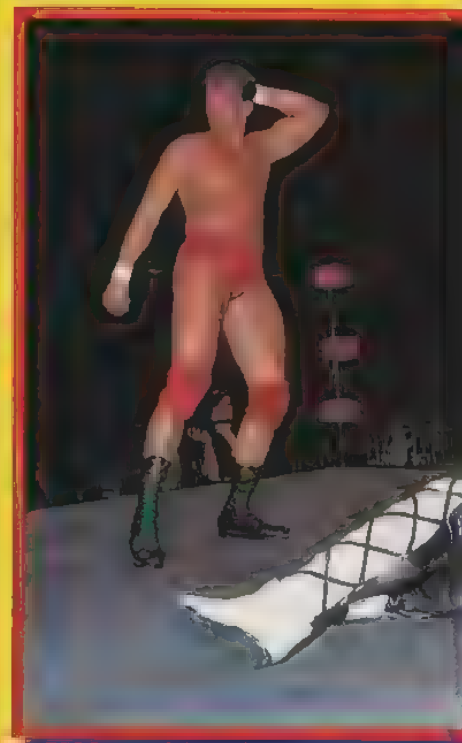




It was, for 11 months and 24 days, the best year of Alex Wright's wrestling career. The 22-year-old German sensation, despite the return of his hip-swiveling dancing which turned the fans against him, captured the Cruiserweight Championship (defeating Chris Jericho) and the Television title (defeating Mita Dragon) in 1997. He was a major candidate for all championship belts, not just a walk-over for some other rising star.

On the meme

had suffered bleeding inside his head. Doctors, though, didn't know immediately if surgery was needed; it all depended on what happened over the next few hours. The pressure on his brain would determine his fate. Wright was forced to lay still and totally quiet for several hours



Wright, finally getting the respect he so rightly deserved, battled his way to the top, enduring beating after beating, lump after lump. Nothing was going to keep this shining star from blazing glory

Nothing but a Prince Laakea sidekick to Wright's head on the Monday Nitro days before Thanksgiving, 1997, that is.

Wright lost the match, returned to the locker room and passed out. Emergency personnel immediately rushed to Wright's side and he was taken to St. Mary's Hospital in Michigan.

The next two days were the longest of his life.

"I can't remember many of the specifics ... I just know it definitely was a scary (situation)," Wright said of the hospital experience.

Wright, it was quickly discovered,



His brain pressure steadily increased, which is the last thing any medic wants to see. So, Wright was given medication to calm him down. Meanwhile, nurses checked his pupils, motion and feeling every 30 minutes.

Finally, the pressure went down.

Wright stayed in the hospital for a few days, as tests on his brain — for any serious, long-term damage — were regularly conducted. Wright was fine, despite what could have been a fatal concussion, his fourth in 1997.

"It was very uncomfortable for me," Wright said of the tests which required a local anaesthesia administered in his groin and a tube sent up through his stomach toward his neck area.

"I had four concussions in '97, and just never took care of them," he said, "And if you don't take care of them, perhaps by coming back (to action) too early, the chance of serious danger definitely is there every time you get hit. There's the potential that your brain swells up, and that's what happened after my last concussion."

"After four concussions, you definitely have to think about taking a few months off, or maybe longer."

Or retirement. Yes, that was suggested, but Wright wouldn't give in. Wrestling is his life, always has been. And always will be, he insists.

The potential for long-term brain damage definitely is there. Wright knows the risks, the potential consequences.

But wrestling is the Wright stuff for Alex.

"I know my career was in jeopardy, that there was and is potential for serious injury, but I



spoke with numerous neurosurgeons and neurologists ... and all are confident I can come back and wrestle at a top level."

Wright's parents came from Germany to be by his side. So did his new wife. It was heart-wrench for all, especially since, at times, Wright had a pressure bandage on his head for 10 hours straight and he couldn't move at all, not even to use the bathroom.

"It was real tough on my mind," Wright said. "My mind was simply going crazy because I just got married, just bought a house. Wrestling is my life; I wouldn't know what to do without wrestling. In my mind, there's nothing else I want to do beside wrestle."

Wright was extremely limited in any movement during December and January, hence, he lost some muscle mass off his sculpted 6-foot-4, 230-pound frame. But that

is nothing that time at the local health club can't remedy.

"I'm basically able to do everything I was able to do before the incident, so I know I'm lucky. Yeah, I know I'm lucky to be alive, and am grateful, so appreciative," Wright said. "I can still wrestle; I can still live my dream. That means so much to me."

"When I wrestle in the future, I know I have to watch my head, make sure I don't take too many shots to the head."

Is the risk worth it?

"There always is risk involved in wrestling, but I just try not to think about it because, if I think about it, I'm gonna be scared to go in there. That's why I don't even think about it," Wright said. "I know I can walk down the street and be run over by a car, but I don't think about that every time I walk down the street."

"I just now know that you really have to enjoy life to the fullest, that you only live life once so make the most of it."

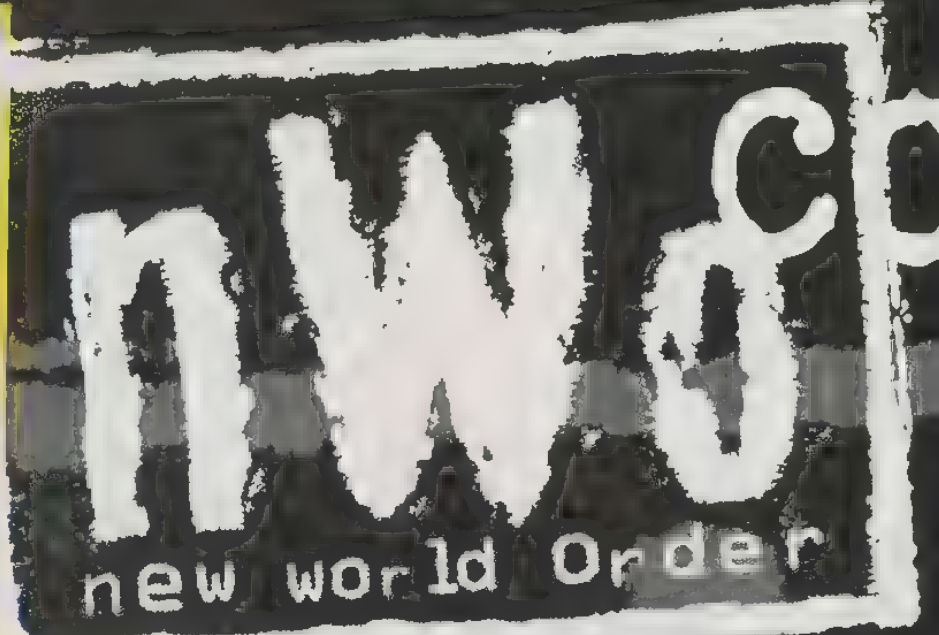
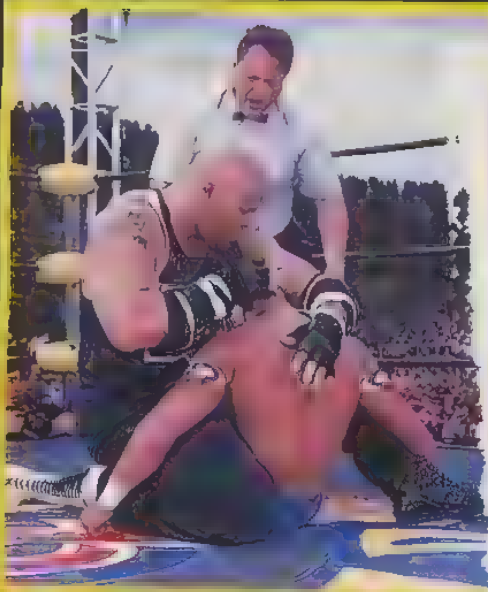
Wright's motivation is stronger than ever. He wants to prove others wrong, to show all that he can overcome any and all obstacles. Plus, there's more gold he wants to win. Retirement at 22? No way.

"I have to focus on the future. This was in the past," Wright said. "I think 1997 was a very good year for me, other than the concussion problems. But that can happen in this sport. Every time you step into the ring there is a risk, a chance that you're gonna get hurt. Wrestling is a tough sport, a physical sport. You can't be weak to wrestle professionally. You've got to be mentally and physically tough."

"I really appreciate my sport, just the fact that I'm still able to do it. The fact that I almost was gonna have to leave the sport, man, that hurts. I now will completely enjoy every minute I am in the ring, regardless of the outcome (of the match)."

Wright added, "There are a lot of moves that wrestlers do that we are sacrificing our bodies for, for the fans' entertainment. Some of those same fans still criticize us, but they couldn't last a minute in the ring with some of the moves, if that long. Being a professional wrestler is tough, real tough. Everyone who thinks about becoming a professional wrestler, they should think twice about it."

Wright thought about his sport four times in 1997, knows it's a tough sport, but also the sport that he WANTS to participate in.



Two years ago today, Hogan was the United States Heavyweight Champion. Hard to believe, isn't it?

But it's a fact. So, two days ago, K-Dog, as we now know him, was in the middle of a smooth run with the gold. He defeated One Man Gang on Jan. 29, 1996, in Canton, Ohio, then lost to Ric Flair on July 7th, 1996.

Konnan's reign: five days, 13 days (Sorry, we miscounted seconds. I'm not Tenay!), and he was one where near a title shot. That's a shame, I think.

Konnan dropped the title to Ric Flair at the 1996 Bash At The Beach (Daytona Beach, Fla.).

Pay-Per-View event remembered as the turning point in pro wrestling. Not for the Konnan-Flair match, but for Hogan's main event appearance by himself. Hogan, and his alliance/formation of The New World Order (NWO).

Whether you want to admit it or not, I will: Hogan's career took off that night. So did Konnan's, but not the way he wanted it to, or the way it should have.

Hogan, as of July 7th, 1996, is the most hated man in wrestling (OK, Eric Bischoff is, at times, very close second, perhaps even tied.) In wrestling, though, that's OK.

Konnan, as of July 7th, 1996, is the most under-appreciated, disrespected wrestler in the sport. And that's not OK.

Hogan and Konnan are both icons, legends. Hogan worldwide, particularly in America. Konnan mainly in the Latin markets.

So many up-and-coming wrestlers dream of being "The next Hulk Hogan." So many Spanish-speaking children aspire to be like Konnan.

But Konnan is, unfortunately, no closer to getting a title shot today than Hogan is to retiring.

Why? Why doesn't Konnan get another major title shot? Why doesn't he have an opportunity to shine, like he has in Mexico for years? Politics are the answer.

WCW has shined in recent years thanks to stars like Rey Mysterio, Jr., and Juventud Guerrera. The two Mexican marvels have set a new standard for high-risk offense in this sport. La Parka, meanwhile, has received incredible popularity because,

well, he can swing a steel chair like Frank Thomas can a Louisville Slugger. Hector Garza offers one of the most incredible, death-defying moves: his Corkscrew Plancha off the top rope. Super Calo has combined fast-paced music with intense, acrobatic action.

And all have Konnan to thank for their WCW careers.

Konnan, as you might know, is The Man in Mexican lucha libre. Arguably one of the top five stars the country has produced. Ever. Again, that's ever.

On Nov. 6th, 1994, Mexico's AAA Promotion offered "When World's Collide," and Konnan main evented against Perro Aguayo. (Aguayo won the 17:50 steel cage match.) The show also featured — on the undercard, mind you — Fuerza Guerrera (Juventud's dad), Psychosis, the late Louie Spicolli, La Parka and Eddy Guerrero, among others.

Another Konnan-moment-to-remember came June 1st, 1996, at the World Wrestling Peace Festival show at the Los Angeles Sports Arena. K-Dog won a Triangle Match over Chris Jericho and Bam Bam Bigelow. The show also included Sgt. Craig Pittman, Akira Hokuto, Bull Nakano, Rey Mysterio, Jr., Ultimo Dragon, Lex Luger, Masa Saito, Hector Garza, Silver King, Black Cat, Justin Liger, The Great Sasuke, The Giant Sting and the immortal Antonio Inoki, among a cast of greats.

Konnan has proven he can deliver. Hopefully he'll get another chance to shine, and hopefully soon. I've got a few other subjects to address this month, such as:

BRET "HITMAN" HART

He says that little saying so well, so eloquently. Just imagine Bret Hart



By Ross Forman

Confidential



standing center-ring, microphone in hand, eyes focused on the camera. "The best there is, the best there was, the best there ever will be." It sounds so, uh, natural.

But I beg to differ.

Bret Hart is good, don't get me wrong. But I know someone who can beat Bret, someone who has beaten Bret and someone who will beat Bret. Can you say, Curt Hennig? Hey, he's flawless, so Bret Hart is just a minor obstacle for Hennig on his way to immortality.



When Curt Hennig arrived on the Nitro scene as an active wrestler, there were more second-guessers than beer vendors. Curt, remember, had been on the D.L. for a few years and his career was rumored to be over. Then look at Hennig's '97 season and the first word that comes to mind is: awesome.

On the other hand, you've got Bret Hart, the most heralded newcomer to WCW since Hulk Hogan and Randy Savage. What would you say about his early-days in WCW? I say, not quite Curt Hennig-esq.

DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE

I'm so sick and tired of hearing Diamond Dallas Page say he wanted to wrestle Chris Benoit just to see how good he himself was. If that is the case, stop up, sign a contract to face Scott Hall or Kevin Nash next week at Monday Nitro.

Hey, I'll admit it. Chris Benoit is one of the most vicious wrestlers in the business. His brawls with Kevin Sullivan in 1997 (those weren't fights; nothing that wild can be classified as fights) were chaotic, to say the least. But Chris Benoit ain't no Scott Hall or Kevin Nash.

And DDP is no Chris Benoit.

Personally, I think Page's name should be CCP, as in, Chicken Charley Page. There's no way he would want to wrestle Hall or Nash. He'd need much more than nerves of steel to stop either of them.

Page also has struggled of late with Raven. Oh sure, the freakish bird-man is a wild warrior, but his major exposure in the past was in front of about 2,500 also-freakish fans in Philadelphia. Raven, it seems to me, has been handling Page rather easily, so, what makes me think Hall or Nash wouldn't destroy DDP.

Page ain't in Hall or Nash's class. Never has been, never will be.

BILL GOLDBERG

I was backstage talking with Bill Goldberg at Super Brawl. It basically was just chit-chat, not

a formal interview or anything like that. I asked him, "Bill, can you believe the incredible response you get from the fans in such a short period of time?" His answer is one I'll never forget. "It's really surprised me."

Goldberg is here. And here to stay.

He's a monster with a mission (seek and destroy in as short a period of time as possible). He's a monster of incredible potential (Can you say, World Champion? I can.)

Goldberg, though, needs The NWO. Much the way The NWO needs Goldberg. And what a perfect marriage it would be! Goldberg, even with all his skill, power and simple presence, needs the time studying under the likes of "Hollywood" Hulk Hogan, "Macho Man" Randy Savage, Scott Hall, Kevin Nash and other legends like that. Imagine Goldberg, come the year 2000, after a year-plus alongside Hogan and Co., he'd be The Future, without question.

Goldberg needs to make his own career decisions, and obviously at his size, he'll do just that. But this one, to me, is a natural.

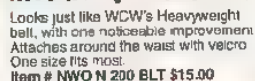
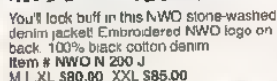
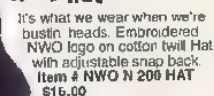
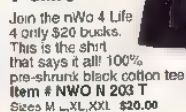
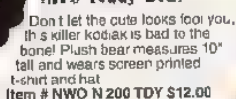
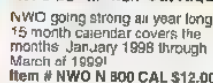
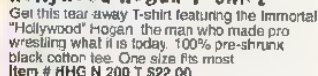
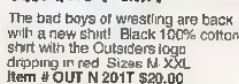
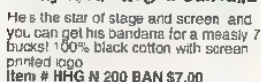
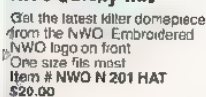
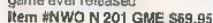
That's it for this month, folks, and that's the way it is.

Ross



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TALKING



POINT

With Mike Tenay

On the surface, the Bret Hart-Curt Hennig feud is just another WCW-NWO showdown. But, upon further review, that's hardly the case.

Three major factors fuel this years-old rivalry, and anyone who's passed Wrestling 101 would know them. Thus, the long-standing differences between the two greats have the footing for some awesome wars over the next few months. And I'm the first to admit I want to see these two fight against one another.

Here are the factors:

● FATHER KNOWS BEST

Both Bret and Curt are second-generation wrestlers who have spent their entire lives devoted to the sport. The fathers of both are difficult to compare head-to-head because of their prominence in two different eras, but both fathers are legends in the sport.

Stu Hart, now in his 80s, began wrestling in the 1930s, and was among the top stars of his time. During his day, he headlined cards in venues like Madison Square



Garden, along with the likes of Lou Thesz. Hart became a top promoter in the 1950s and, for decades, ran the Calgary-based Stampede Wrestling Promotion, which has produced so many greats, from Chris Benoit, Jim Neidhart to the late Brian Pillman, and countless others. Stu fathered a dozen children, and all eight boys have, or had, some connection to the wrestling business. Stu's training facility — dubbed The Dungeon — is as noted as his rigorous training methods.

Larry Hennig first made his mark on the sport in the 1960s, as the tag team partner of World Champion-to-be Harley Race. Billed as "Pretty Boy" Larry and "Handsome" Harley, they were longtime rivals of "The Crusher" and Dick "The Bruiser" for the now-defunct AWA Tag Team Titles. Later in his career, as a singles competitor, Larry was a top challenger to perennial AWA World Heavyweight Champion Verne Gagne as Larry "The Ax" Hennig.

The theme, father vs. father and son vs. son, is so easy to sound.

But, according to Bret, "I can't believe Curt wants to drag this down to grade-school level with his claims of, 'My dad is tougher than your dad.' The fact is, Stu Hart beat Larry Hennig and Bret Hart beat Curt Hennig. He's just afraid I'll do it again. I don't have a bad word to say about Curt Hennig's wrestling ability. Hennig is one of the most technically-sound guys I've ever fought. He's tough, smart, experienced and can be cagey as a fox."

The two, Hart and Hennig, are basically mirror images of each other in terms of ability and technique. Excellence of Execution vs. The Flawless One.

● DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Bret spent years as a tag team wrestler — and a very successful one, I might add — before scoring what is known in the business as a "breakthrough" singles



Championship win on a major summer night in 1991. His opponent that evening was none other than Curt Hennig, and you just know Hennig hates to be known as the wrestler who made Bret's career.

That factor has to eat at Hennig, and just continues to drive him to overcome that loss.

● TRADITION BITES?

Bret Hart watched with disgust when Curt Hennig turned on The Four Horsemen and WCW last fall at Fall Brawl. Over the years, Hart had come to respect the staying power of The Four Horsemen. Their solidarity and support reminded him of his own family-related wrestling group. Upon signing with WCW, Hart confided that avenging the destruction of The Four Horsemen was a top priority. In his Calgary Sun newspaper column, Bret even went so far as to dedicate his feud with Curt Hennig to the solidarity of WCW and the memory of The Four Horsemen ... although the "Hitman" suspects The Horsemen have NOT ridden off to their final sunset yet.

Bret vs. Curt will be a fantastic fight, truly one for the ages. Two equally-experienced mat technicians battling it out for bragging rights and family pride. Set the VCR.

See you at the arenas,
Mike.

Can you imagine that there's actually an annual award that some professional athletes DO NOT want to receive?

I've had the pleasure of being a broadcast partner of former New York Yankees and Los Angeles Dodgers ace pitcher Al Downing. It was Al who told me that baseball players, and probably all other professional athletes, DO NOT want to receive the "Comeback Player Of The Year" award. At the same time, it's also a bold statement that the player's previous season or seasons were pretty crummy.

Professional wrestling does not have a "Comeback Player Of The Year" award. However, if there was such a thing, it should be sent directly to Disco Inferno. Disco's ring record is very clear. He spent much of 1997 trying unsuccessfully to master a submission-style leglock. Adding to Disco's frustration was his altercation — and eventual loss — to a woman. While I'm sure Disco Inferno would never admit it, that particular incident could have been the turning point in his young career.

It would have been easy, and perhaps even understandable, if Disco had packed up his wrestling gear and did "The Hustle" all the way home to Brooklyn. However, it appears as though Disco Inferno has rededicated himself to wrestling. In fact, it might be more accurate to say that Disco is taking his career seriously for the very first time. Although he's still a pompous, egotistical blow-hard, Disco has become all business inside the ropes. When it comes to devastating finishing moves, Disco Inferno's finisher, the "ChartBuster," may be second only to Diamond Dallas Page's "Diamond Cutter." The "ChartBuster" and the "Diamond Cutter" are unlike Ric Flair's "Figure-Four Leglock," Bret Hart's "Sharpshooter" and Lex Luger's "Torture Rack." The Figure-Four, Sharpshooter and Torture Rack are submission holds. The "Diamond Cutter" and Disco's "ChartBuster" seem to come out of nowhere. Additionally, they are not submission holds. Rather, they are moves intended to knock out an opponent.

Some might suggest Disco Inferno's first World Television Championship was a fluke. In fact, some have called Disco "The sport's most fortunate Champion." However, I think broadcasters, journalists, fans and, especially other wrestlers had their eyes opened when Disco beat Saturn and became the World Television Champion for a second time. Since his win over Saturn, Disco has racked up a very impressive win-loss record. He seems to have a new determination and dedication to his career. Disco Inferno is a serious athlete who has earned new respect. In my opinion, Disco Inferno is our sport's "Comeback Player Of The Year."

From the STRICTLY PERSONAL FILE...

My job calls for me to travel hundreds of thousands of miles each year. Due to this travel, I have been able to visit places most people have only seen in books, postcards, movies and/or TV. My WCW colleagues and I have walked "The Strip" in Las Vegas and "The French Quarter" in

New Orleans. We've stood in the footprints of the stars at Mann's Chinese Theater in Hollywood, and we've gazed with awe at the man-made magnificence of Mount Rushmore. We've been to Elvis Presley's home in Memphis and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland. We've been on the Space Needle. We've been blessed to have experienced so many famous and interesting locations. However, there's one location that will stay vividly in our collective lifetime of memories. In mid-February, WCW invaded Oklahoma City for a live broadcast of "Thunder." That afternoon, I joined Tony Schiavone and Mike Tenay as we went to the site of the Oklahoma City Federal Building bombing. We stood at the site where a premeditated act of violence claimed the lives of 169 men, women and children. We stood at the site of an incident that was so heinous as to seem unbelievable.

Tony, Mike and I experienced the reality of what took place that April

clean and crisp as the day they were published. Keith said a woman came by the studio and offered to sell the magazines; in addition to a mint condition baseball card of Hall of Fame second baseman Nellie Fox. It would not be proper to disclose what Keith paid for the card and the magazines, but he did give the woman the price she wanted. Keith's jaw dropped when Mike Tenay told him the value of some of the old publications. Mike is considered an expert in this particular field, so you can imagine Keith's delight when he heard "The Professor" tell him that some of the magazines were worth between \$100-\$150.

I'm not sure what other old magazines have that kind of value to collectors. However, I've just learned that Bobby "The Brain" is now trying to sell his yellow dog-eared collection of "My Weekly Reader."

In closing, here's a little wrestling trivia. Match the wrestler with his finishing move:

The Marshall

By "Stagger" Lee Marshall



morning in 1996. We saw the handmade tributes and handwritten expressions of love and loss. We left the Oklahoma City bomb site knowing that we had just experienced something we would never forget.

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH... You may have some hidden treasures in your home, so perhaps it's time to take a peek at the contents of the old trunk in the corner of the attic. Maybe it's worth looking into the cardboard boxes that have established permanent residence in the back of the guest-room closet. As everyone knows, some old baseball cards and certain sports magazines have become valuable and highly sought after. It seems as though the same can be said for some old professional wrestling publications.

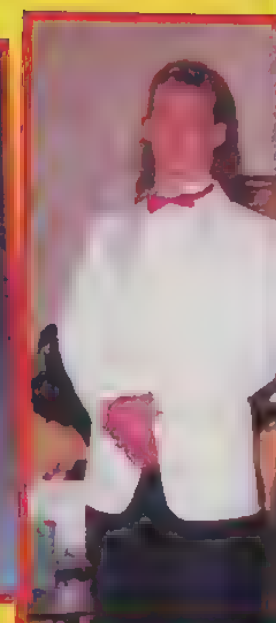
Recently, Mike Tenay and I were at WCW's production facility at CNN Center. We saw WCW Supervising Producer Keith Mitchell, who asked us to come into his office as he had something he wanted us to see. Keith reached into a cardboard box and pulled out about a dozen old professional wrestling magazines from the late 1950s and early 1960s. Each had been placed within a plastic wrapper, so they were as

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Arn Anderson | A. Coca Butt |
| 2. Freddie Blassie | B. The Claw |
| 3. Verne Gagne | C. Spine Buster |
| 4. Bobo Brazil | D. Swinging Neck Breaker |
| 5. Ox Baker | E. Flying Head Butt |
| 6. Baron Von Raschke | F. Pile Driver |
| 7. Jimmy Snuka | G. Heart Punch |
| 8. Paul Orndorff | H. Sleeper |
| 9. Bobby "The Brain" Heenan | I. Run, Hide and Whimper |

Best wishes until next month, Lee



THIS IS



Your life

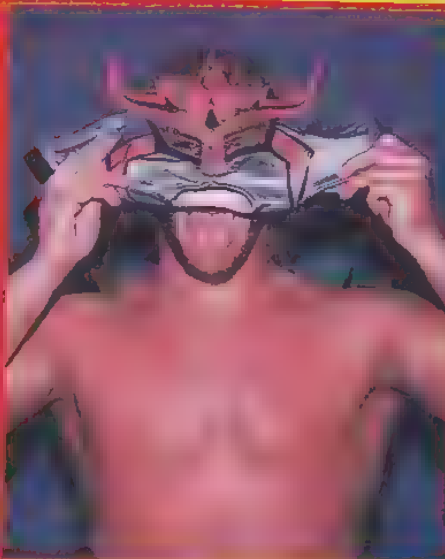
H

e was at the 1997 World War 3 Pay-Per-View, the first WCW star to beat an NWO competitor (Nick Patrick).

He was, at SuperBrawl VIII this past February in San Francisco, the first WCW and/or NWO competitor to defeat a Mexican luchador (Juventud Guerrera) with a mask on the line.

He was the first son of a pro hockey player to wrestle in WCW.

Chris Jericho is a man of many firsts, even a few, shall we say, ridiculous firsts. Hey Jericho actually had the gall to approach James J. Dillon and the entire WCW Executive Committee about — gulp, get ready for this — changing the name of Monday Nitro to Monday Jericho. (Illusions of grandeur clearly are not lacking in this Canadian kid.) Sure, Jericho is a star, a champion on multiple occasions. But



the next Hulk Hogan? He says so.

We spoke with Chris last month to reflect on his road traveled to Cruiserweight Champion, from his childhood north of the border to his high school days, to ECW to life away from the ring.

ABOUT HIS DAD: FORMER NHL FORWARD TED IRVING

"My dad has always been real supportive of everything I have ever done, which made it real easy to get into this business. I think he understands the business, the camaraderie, the dream. When I first said I wanted to do this, get into wrestling, he said he was behind me 100 percent. He's always been my biggest fan. He always has good words, good advice, thus, he's been a real inspiration as far as that goes because I

really respect what he did when he was my age. I'm living my dream, and he's completely behind me."

FATHERLY ADVICE:

"I don't think there ever was any specific advice that he gave, just more of an attitude — a positive attitude. He stressed the importance of not letting anything be too serious; whatever happens is only a problem that can be solved."

ON BEING THE SON OF A FORMER PRO HOCKEY PLAYER

"When I was a kid, I didn't really care. He was just my dad. Sure, others thought it was really cool, but I never really thought it was all that special.

"I can remember going to the games and not liking them because they were too noisy. I still remember sitting in





Madison Square Garden (in New York City) with my jacket over my head because I didn't really like it (at the time), but now I really respect what he accomplished. Not too many people played in the NHL, especially back in those days, when there were only about 12 or 15 teams in the league at the time. My dad averaged 15-goals-a-year which, at the time, was really good. He was a tough guy, perhaps a pre-cursor to Cam Neely, (the former Boston Bruin great).

"I now really respect what he did and kind of wish I would have paid more attention at the time. I also wish I now had more of his action on video tape, be it goals he scored or fights he was in.

"I'm more of a hockey fan now than when I was younger."

THE FIRST TIME I SAW MY DREAM MATCH

"I remember going to games and watching him skate around (the rink) during warm-up. I'd try to get his attention, but I didn't like it because he never really acknowledged me; he always had his game-face on.

"One hockey memory that always will stand out was when I scored my first goal in hockey and later on that evening, he scored his 150th NHL goal. We both saved the pucks and put them on a plaque. It's a cool memento to have, but, the funny thing is, after I scored my goal, they gave me the puck but after the game I threw it back in the net. My dad asked, 'Where's your puck?' I replied, 'I have enough pucks at home; I don't need this puck.' But he made me go out and get it again.



"I also remember the first time I went to skate. I was crying; I didn't like it. All I wanted to do was come off the ice; my mom said, 'No Pro,' but my dad wouldn't let me off the ice. He made me stay there. It was his never-give-up attitude, which is something that's been with me to this day."

CHRIS JERICHO, HOCKEY PLAYER

"Yeah, I played as a kid, but then I gave it up. I played high school hockey for one year, then got cut from the team, but wasn't too upset. I didn't want to be there anyway; I wanted to train for wrestling. I returned to (playing hockey) when I was 18 and really got into it then. But, skill-level-wise, I was a grinder, a big checker. I wasn't a goon, but was a fighter. I remember I slammed a guy on the ice once and chased him off the ice into the dressing room. I had a pretty bad captain.

FAVORITE HOCKEY PLAYER

"Wayne Gretzky. In 1980, when I was a 10-year-old kid, he was just starting (in the NHL) and he really captured my imagination of being a pro hockey player. I also liked Bobby Orr. From the modern era, I really like Paul Kariya and Peter Forsberg."

MY FATHER A MAJOR GENERATION ATHLETE

(He's really cool.)

"I know how hard it is to excel in a sport you really love, something you really wanna do, be it hockey or wrestling. For that reason, I really respect my father and what I've accomplished in my short wrestling career. But I'm not finished yet; I'm not satisfied yet."

MY FATHER

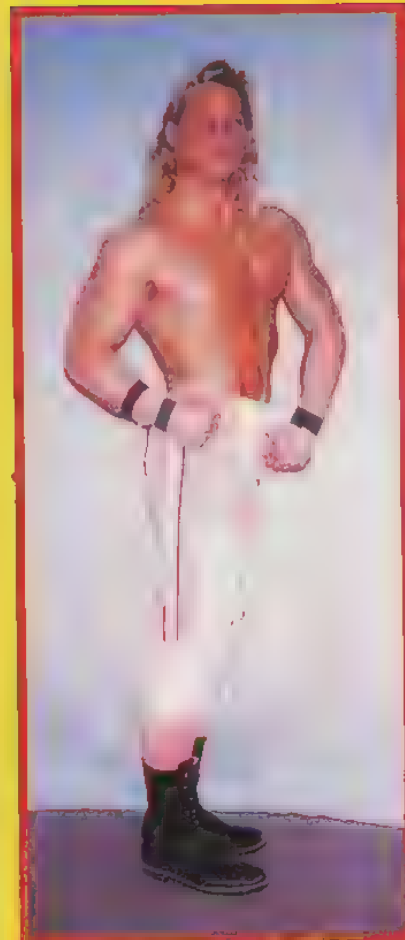
"Oh, that was just a high school thing, something we did for three or four years. Oh, sure, I still like to jam and still have an appreciation for music. I'm a big music person. Every time I go to Japan, I buy 10 or 15 CDs because there are a lot that you can't get anywhere else but there."

OTHER HOBBIES?

"I like messing around on the computer. I also like going to movies. I'm not married, so I just hang out. I like hanging out with my friends when I go back to Canada. I always have a good time with them."

MY FAVORITE WRESTLER

"Hulk Hogan and The Dynamite Kid, for his quickness. I also liked Bret Hart because he was/is Canadian; he hadn't, when I was a kid, reached the level of notoriety he has over the past few years. I always enjoyed watching The Hart Foundation battle The (British) Bulldogs."



DREAM MATCH

"I would have loved to have seen Dynamite Kid in his prime versus the 1998 version of Chris Benoit. Where's the Time Machine when you really need it? (Laughs).

"As for a Dream Match to be in, I'd like to wrestle against Chris Benoit, 'Macho Man' Randy Savage, Bret Hart (and) Owen Hart."

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

"Just keep doing what I'm doing, keep expanding on what I'm doing, keep always going forward, keep increasing my name in this sport, going to Japan a few more times."

GOOD TIMES

"Good times. The dressing room was always a good atmosphere, a family-type atmosphere. I never was involved in any of the crazy matches, like the barbed-wire matches. I wrestled in more of the real wrestling matches, like against (2 Cold) Scorpio and Shane Douglas. I had a great time; I really enjoyed it there."

MY FATHER AND I...

"Am a big Christian. I'm going to church every Sunday when I have the chance. I really try to follow God as much as I can. A lot of people probably do not know that about me."



REAL MAN

The fact that "Macho Man" Randy Savage and "Hollywood" Hulk Hogan aren't seeing eye-to-eye should come as a surprise to, uh, no one. Just look at their past. But the level to which their current war is running, well, this is to a point no one could have possibly expected, or predicted. Bottom line, this feud is ugly, and don't expect a white flag from either.

Randy Savage isn't just the "Macho Man" and "The Most Dangerous Man in Wrestling," he's a grenade with its pin three-quarters of the way out. Maybe more. Savage clearly is wired a wee bit too tight for his own good, and also for Hogan's well-being. Not too mention the rest of the wrestling world.

Hogan, on the other hand, would walk on broken glass and burning coals to proclaim his greatness, his supremacy over everyone. Hogan doesn't know what it means to be humble. And for that reason, Savage wants to make him crumble.

The bottom line on these battlers is

simple: They are the most-recognizable professional wrestlers of the modern era. The question is, who's better, who's bigger?

That will be answered in the ring. Well, it should be answered in the ring, but, quite possibly, it will be battled in the streets, hotels, airports and everywhere else these two gladiators cross.

No referee is needed for this war. No referee should be allowed.

"On his best day, Randy Savage might be good enough to carry my boots. Remember, I said, might," Hogan said.

Countered Savage, "Hulk Hogan wishes he had the career I've had."

The Hogan-Savage feud started when leadership of The NWO was on the line. Naturally each claimed that title.

Then the gloves REALLY came off.

● Hogan made quips about the lovely Elizabeth, noting that, when she managed him, it was more than just a wrestler-manager relationship. Much more.

● Savage replied by saying Hogan

simply needed to ask his own wife, Linda, who the real man of the two is. Savage's accusation, whether or not true, was one incredible dagger.

● Hogan claimed his success in the sport was responsible for the Florida home that Angelo and Judy Poffo (Randy's parents) live in.

● Hogan exposed Randy's real-life brother, and even — on national TV, at all places — questioned the brother's manhood.

● Savage asserted the real deal within The NWO is that, while all claim they love Hogan, they can't wait until he turns around — so they can stab him in the back. Talk about loving someone to death.

● Hogan repeatedly has mocked Savage's real-life split from Elizabeth and the fact he "does not have a family."

The Uncensored steel cage match could only slow the fight.

It won't be settled until one leaves the profession.

THE REAL MAN

The folks at the Harvard Lampoon love to laugh, but, they were dead-serious in mid-February when they honored Randy Savage with its 1998 Real Man Of The Year award in a mid-ring ceremony on the steps of The Lampoon Castle along Bow Street in Cambridge, Mass.

More than 2,000 screaming fans braved 30-degree temperatures to rally behind Savage — and denounce the Hasty Pudding's selection of Kevin Kline for its top honor of the year. Shoot, as far as the college kids and Savage were concerned, Kevin Kline could have been Hulk Hogan.

Savage shined after the award.

Hogan whined.

"Randy Savage is just a natural choice as the manliest man in the world," said Nicholas A. Stoller, The Lampoon's Narthex.





Added Lampoon president Matthew J. Murray, "We knew the Hasty Pudding Award was going to Kevin, and that we had to make sure our Man Of The Year was more manly than Kevin Kline. Well, there's not much competition, is there? Even though I've heard Kevin has been working out, I'm sure we're safe (selecting Savage)."

Hogan cringed with every word from the college students. Saluting a wrestler, almost any wrestler, is fine. But not Savage. Then, when clips of Savage's day at Harvard aired on numerous WCW TV shows, Hogan was irate. A waste of valuable TV time, he claimed.

Founded in 1876, The Harvard Lampoon is the world's oldest humor magazine, and has produced national parodies of such magazines as Time, Newsweek and Entertainment Weekly. It also has spoofed USA TODAY and other newspapers.

The Lampoon honors celebrities for their achievements in the art of comedy. Among past honorary Lampoon members in recent years: Robin Williams, Billy Crystal, John Cleese, Phil Hartman, Tracey Ullman, Chevy Chase, Peter Falk, Joe Perry of Aerosmith, John Wayne, John Candy, Mr. T., and Bill Cosby. Former Lampoon editors include John Updike, George Santayana, William Randolph Hearst, George Plimpton and Conan O'Brien.

The Real Man Of The Year Award is given to the male specimen who best exemplifies universal manliness.

"When you think of a 'Real Man', you think of wrestlers, boxers and just really large men," Stoller said. "When we started considering the potential candidates, it was clear pretty quickly who was going to get it.

"Randy fits every qualification required to win this award: confidence, articulation, virility, leadership and wrestling ability. And the ability to execute a flying elbowdrop off the top rope certainly was a plus."

Was Hogan a candidate? A finalist?

No reply from the Harvard crew.

Savage's special day featured a 30-minute parade through the Harvard campus. The Lampoon's annual parade featured the Harvard

band and also — get ready for this — llamas, monkeys, snakes and any number of other oddities, human and animalistic. The Harvard wrestling team also marched, not to mention a human Slim-Jim. "That was so cool when I saw that guy," Savage said of the student who truly dressed himself like Savage then strapped Slim-Jims all over himself. (When he spotted Student Slim-Jim, Savage pointed at the youngster, then actually signaled him over to the car Savage was riding in. Savage then personally saluted the Savage wanna-be to the cheers of the thousands who followed the parade.)

After the parade, there was a 45-minute, mid-ring ceremony on the streets of Cambridge. Savage was recognized by the Lampoon staff by a well-known, well-respected physics professor. But when the studious one rambled on for too long, Savage promptly told him to "make like a tree and leave." Plus, Savage teamed with The Lampoon's official mascot, Grimace, for an impromptu Challenge Match. (Need we say who won?)

Savage signed hundreds of autographs for the faithful fans who often chanted "MACHO, MACHO, MACHO."

"It's going to be difficult for anyone to oust Savage from this award," Stoller said. "We've had some manly men come through this castle, from George Foreman to John Wayne to Mr. T., but Randy's The Man."

Savage returned to The Castle Tuesday evening for a members-only dinner, and also was inducted into the exclusive organization as an honorary member.

"I've been a World Champion on numerous occasions, but this honor ranks right up there," Savage said. Mama Macho always wanted me to go to Harvard ... well, now I'm here."

Savage's induction into the Lampoon was not without the natural pomp and circumstance. (By the way, there was a throng of fans at the mid-ring ceremony who hummed Savage's long-time theme song, Pomp and Circumstance, which Savage recognized with

the traditional NWO handshake.) Savage, during the ceremony, was allowed into several areas of The Lampoon Castle that traditionally are closed to non-members. He also was initiated, but would not discuss his initiation.

"Hollywood' Hogan never could win this award ... he went to Yale," Savage said. "I hope Hogan, Sting, Bret Hart, Lex Luger and everyone else in WCW and The NWO is listening to, or reading, this. I am The Man and now have the trophy to prove it. And if I need to clock you over the head with my trophy to prove it, hey, I can — and will — do that, too."

Added Stoller, "I'm not a betting man, but I think Randy Savage already is the odds-on favorite to win the award again in 1999."

As if the Harvard honor isn't bad enough for Hogan, Savage has invaded Hollywood at full speed. For instance, in early-March Savage appeared on several episodes of the game show Pictionary, hosted by Alan Thicke. And, shortly after SuperBrawl, Savage appeared on Later (NBC), hosted by Judd Nelson.

Savage, it seems, has taken Hogan's path to stardom of late. And some might say he's passed Hogan on the TV front. Ask Savage and he'll tell ya, long past him.

But this fight is no where near ending.

It's gone from man-to-man to a family feud Richard Dawson never could contain, let alone Billy Silverman, Charles Robinson, Nick Patrick, Randy "PeeWee" Anderson, or any of the proud WCW referees.



FACE THE FUTURE

Ted DiBiase



From world-class wrestler to world-class manager, Ted DiBiase has been in the wrestling industry for nearly 20 years and has been on both sides of the fence, going from NWO bad guy to reformed and respected manager of the once "dynamic duo" of Rick and Scott Steiner. Under the helpful guidance of DiBiase, The Steiners snagged the tag team gold last year only to be torn apart by the NWO. At this writing, Scott Steiner has betrayed both his brother Rick and DiBiase and joined the NWO leaving us with some perplexing questions about the future of Rick Steiner and, of course, Ted DiBiase. Here, Ted talks about the Steiner break up and also gives us a little insight into his own life and the reason he chose to leave the New World Order and what his plans are for the future.



WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON SCOTT STEINER'S TURN TO THE NWO AND HIS BETRAYAL OF HIS BROTHER RICK AND OF YOU?

Frankly, it's disgusting. There are a lot of people who don't always do the right thing and I'm certainly one of those people but there is an old saying, "Blood is thicker than water." Turn your back on your friends, your company, your boss, but when you turn against your own brother — that's the lowest. Forget about me. It's the betrayal of family that is the worst part of this whole thing. It truly was a sad day in wrestling when Scott walked away from his brother.

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS NOW THAT THE TEAM IS NO LONGER TOGETHER? DO YOU STILL PLAN TO MANAGE RICK AND WILL YOU TAKE ON ANYONE ELSE?

I will most definitely continue to manage Rick Steiner. It's bad enough that his brother turned on him, I'm not about to walk away from him. I'll stay with him. He took a chance on me when I left the NWO and I haven't forgotten that.

As for managing others, one thing that hasn't changed about me is that I'm still loaded. I still have the money — money that wields power. I will put my money behind anyone who will stand behind WCW and go against the NWO. I have no current plans to manage anyone in particular but when I see the right one or ones, I won't hesitate to take them on.

DO YOU SEE YOURSELF GETTING BACK IN THE RING SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE?

Well, I never say never. Yes, it's possible.

WERE YOU AWARE THAT SCOTT WAS UNHAPPY WITH THE TEAM AND WAS ABOUT TO JOIN THE NWO OR WERE YOU AS SURPRISED AS THE REST OF US WHEN THAT HAPPENED?

I was aware that Scott was acting goofy and was on a power trip or ego trip, whatever. We still haven't figured out what was bothering him, frankly. I would venture to say the NWO, in a large way, got into his head and filled it with a bunch of garbage. In his mind, the WCW didn't stand behind him or give him a fair enough break, especially after Sturgis. (The tag team belts were lost due to a blatant disqualification ploy on the part of the NWO at Road Wild '97). He's focusing the blame in the wrong place. It is the NWO who caused his frustration, yet he doesn't seem to see that. He is venting his frustration in completely the wrong place.

WOULD YOU CONSIDER JOINING THE NWO AGAIN SHOULD RICK FOLLOW SUIT AND JOIN HIS BROTHER?

Rick is not going to follow suit but even if he did, I would not.

WHAT INFLUENCED YOU TO LEAVE THE NWO AND TEAM WITH THE STEINER BROTHERS?

I had an opportunity to make a statement. I was out of sight for almost three months. I took a sabbatical to write my book (Every Man has His Price) about my life, and did a lot of thinking in that time. I come from a wrestling family, both my mom and dad were wrestlers, and I got to the point when people talked of tradition, pride and integrity, I started taking a long hard look at myself. I realized that if my dad (The late "Iron Mike DiBiase") were alive at that time, he would not be happy with the direction I was going in. When I came back to WCW, I saw that the Steiners and I had a common goal — and I wanted to destroy the monster that I had helped build, the NWO. The Steiners were the perfect team to help me reach that goal and they took a chance on me.

YOU TOOK THEM TO THE GOLD, AN ACCOMPLISHMENT MANY ARE ATTRIBUTING SOLELY ON YOUR INFLUENCE. DO YOU HAVE PLANS FOR RICK TO PURSUE ANY SINGLES GOLD IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

Rick and Scott always had the potential to be champs and were long before I came along. I may have added the icing on the cake. My knowledge of the wrestling business and definitely my knowledge of Hall and Nash and the NWO and how you have to approach them were the elements that I brought to the team. But to say that I was responsible for them winning the gold is preposterous, the talent has always been there.

As for Rick, yes, of course he is going to pursue singles gold. Any title we can get a shot at, is the one we'll take. We want to show brother Scott the error of his ways and what better way to do so than to have Scott see his older brother wearing a singles title after humiliating him. It is Rick's ultimate goal to show Scott that he CAN prevail and he WILL survive without him. And, also, to wake Scott up to what he did.



WHO DO YOU FEEL ARE THE UP AND COMING NEW STARS IN WCW?

One guy I am very impressed by is Bill Goldberg. This guy has tremendous intensity and his ring presence is overwhelming. He appears to be a fast learner and he won over the approval of the fans very quickly. Also, whether I like these guys or not, the future seems to lie with guys like Dean Malenko, Chris Jericho, Chris Benoit, Eddy Guerrero. All have tremendous wrestling skills and I think they will lead WCW into the future. And, despite how I personally feel about them, Hall and Nash are already there as both the present and the future of this sport based on their athletic ability.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING AS A CAREER? WHO WERE SOME OF YOUR INFLUENCES?

My dad was my biggest influence. He was respected and regarded as a great amateur and professional wrestler and wrestling has been in my blood since day one. I was born into it.

DO YOU PREDICT AN NWO TAKEOVER OR DO YOU SEE THE NWO CRUMBLING AS SO MANY HAVE BEEN PREDICTING LATELY? CERTAINLY WITH THE ACQUISITION OF SCOTT STEINER, THEY HAVE MORE POWER BEHIND THEM DESPITE WHAT SEEMS TO BE INNER TURMOIL AMONG THE RANKS.



Never underestimate a foe of any kind. Sad to say, I came here with the NWO and I don't align myself with anything that's weak — good or bad. There's no denying the talent of the NWO — Hogan, Hall, Nash. Yeah, they're cocky and arrogant but they're loaded with talent. But I don't see them defeating WCW. What will get in the way is ego.

Here you have a very large group of talented but also very self-centered guys and ultimately that's what will help tear them down. Adding Scott to the NWO helps them but we're talking about another big ego. He left his own brother due to his over-inflated ego and now he is in a group where everyone is looking out for themselves, not the other guy. How do you trust a guy who would turn against his own brother? I see the potential for the NWO to do real damage to WCW but, ultimately, I see them self-destructing due to their own selfish motives.

WOULD YOU TAKE SCOTT STEINER BACK IF HE WANTED TO RETURN TO YOUR MANAGEMENT UNDER WCW? DO YOU THINK HE WILL BE "NWO 4 LIFE" OR WILL HE SEE THE ERROR OF HIS WAYS AND REJOIN HIS BROTHER AND YOU ONCE AGAIN?

Well, I'll tell you, the decision to take him back is ultimately not mine. It is left to his brother, Rick. There's an old saying, "It's never too late." Scott Steiner is now with guys who care more about themselves than anything else and I hope that he will see that. The day, whenever it comes, when big

brother Rick gets hold of him and beats his butt is a day that might just knock a little reality back into him. Scotty Steiner is big cry baby and needs to be spanked and that's all that Rick is focused on. He wants to beat some sense into his brother. He's hurt and he's betrayed.

If Scott were to reconcile with Rick and we could have the old Scott Steiner back, the one we first had before all this ridiculousness started happening, then of course I would take him back. We all make mistakes. When I left the NWO, Scott and Rick took a chance on me. They really didn't know what I was all about yet they looked me in the eye and they decided to trust me not to betray them. If I thought Scott was sincere and wanted to come back to join his brother under my management, I would give him the same chance he gave me.

DO YOU HAVE ANY REGRETS ABOUT YOUR CAREER?

No major regrets. I regret it wasn't longer. I was just turning 40 when I became injured and could no longer wrestle. I still love the business and right now it's more popular than ever and I'd like to be actively participating in it and I can't. But all in all, I feel that I have had a good career and I never look back and say, "If only I had done this or if only this were different" because we could all do that about everything in life. I was in this business for two decades and am still active as far as being right on the scene with the guys and I feel that, looking back, I did okay.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT?

The fact that I was able to stay in wrestling and be a top performer and a respected one for nearly 20 years. That, in itself, is an accomplishment. As crazy and demanding as pro wrestling is on your lifestyle — the travel, the injuries, the stresses and strains of the business — the fact that I have been able to hold together a family during all that time and have the relationship I do with my wife and kids, to me, is my greatest accomplishment.

HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED, SAY, 10 YEARS FROM NOW?

To the fans, as someone who always gave them their money's worth. Whether you liked me or hated me, I was always there. As a professional, I conducted myself as a businessman throughout my



career and I didn't burn any bridges along the way. My word was true and was my bond.

IF YOU COULD DO IT ALL OVER — WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

We could all pick our lives apart but in the larger scheme of things, I don't have any regrets nor would I want to change anything. As I look back at my career, I made some wise and some unwise choices but I learned from all those choices and that is what made me the man I am today. Would I do anything differently? No, I think I got to experience the bad, the good and the ugly in the sport and was on every side of it and I wouldn't really have changed a thing. I learned from every mistake, from every loss, from every failure. And, I learned from my successes as well. Hopefully, I can continue to enjoy the successes and be as active as possible in the coming months and years.



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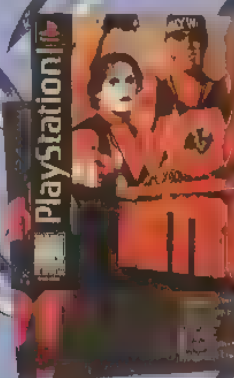


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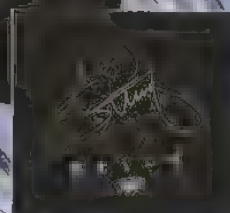
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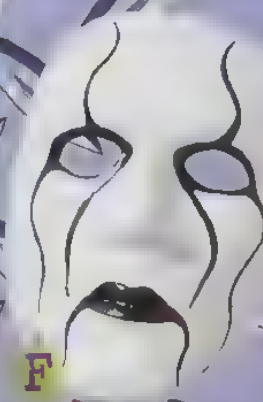
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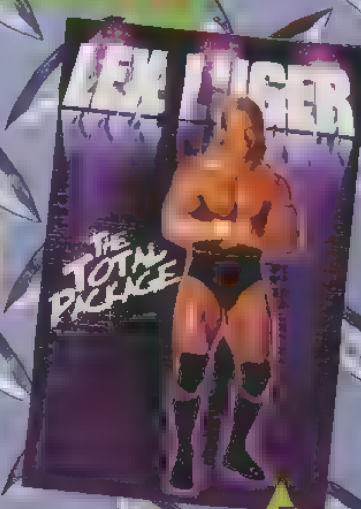
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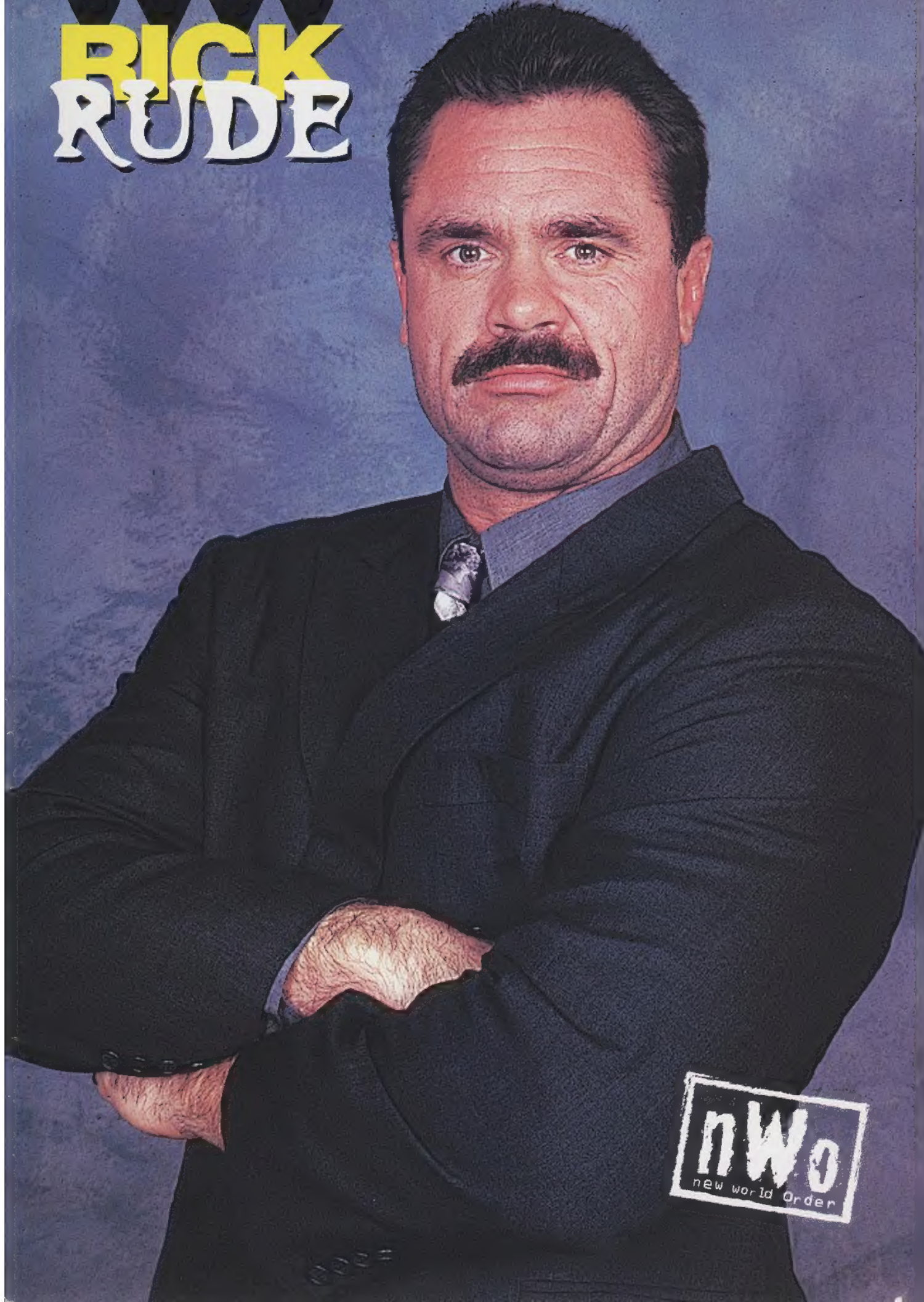
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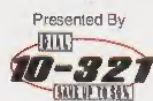
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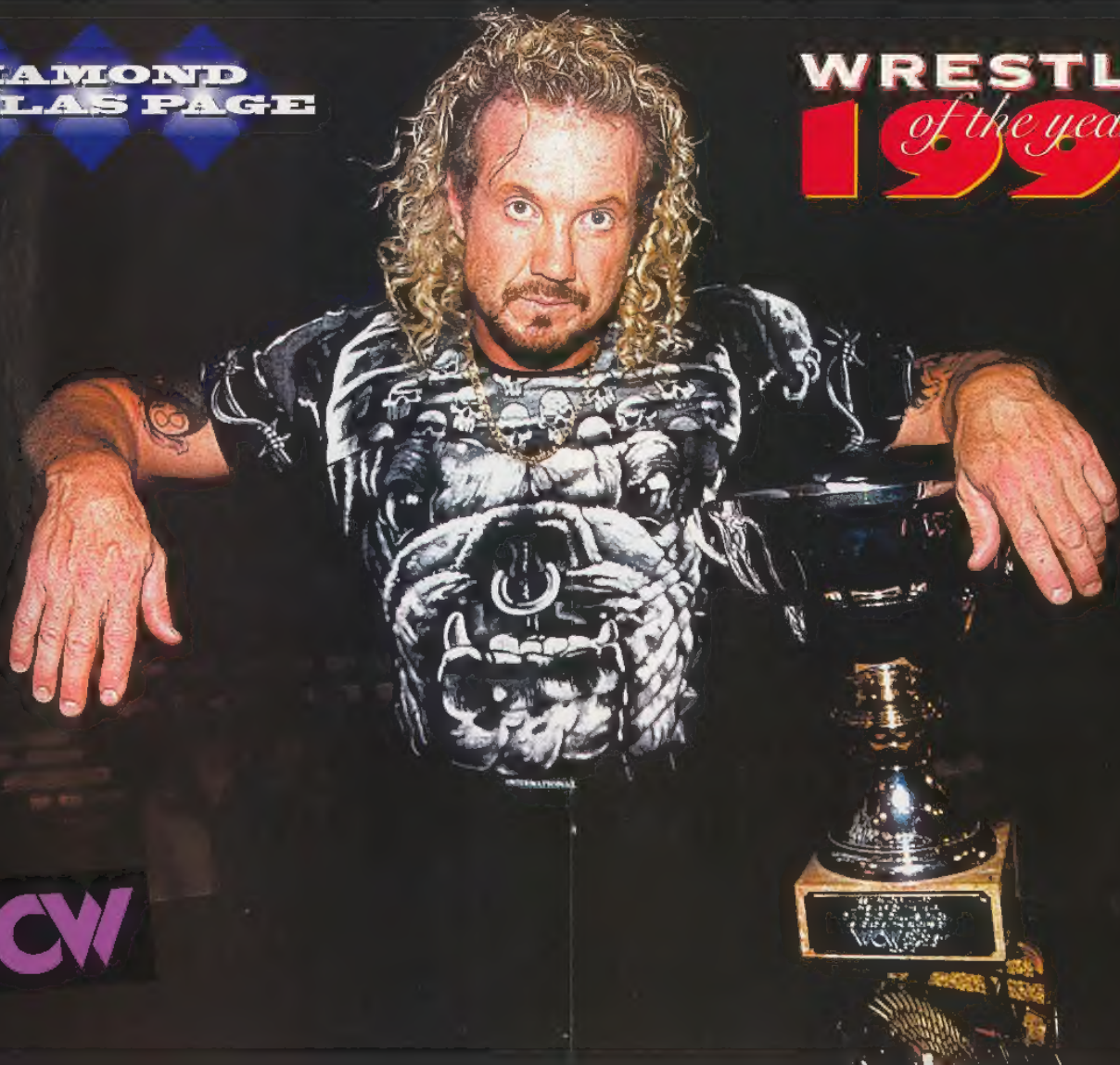
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